



The Buckeye Disciple

Christian Church in Ohio (Disciples of Christ)

A covenant network of congregations in mission: We are the Body of Christ gifted and called in covenant together as Disciples of Christ to be centers of transformation on the new mission frontier of our own communities.

March/April 2005

Volume 14, Number 2

2005 Easter Special Offering

Let the Blessings Flow

- 2 Corinthians 9:8

The Easter Special Offering is the only special offering that helps general ministries change lives.



This special offering, part of the Disciples Mission Fund, is collected and distributed for Disciples through the Church Finance Council.

Easter Offering 2005

Philip H. Hunt, Chairperson of the Ohio Disciple Outreach Committee

"Let the Blessings Flow" is the theme of the 2005 Easter Offering. The scripture base for this year's theme comes from 2 Corinthians 9:8: *And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work.* I know it seems like we sometimes struggle to make ends meet, but we really are blessed to live in this great country. And with that blessing of God comes responsibility in ministry here at home and abroad.

This Easter offering supports: Christian Church Foundation, Board of Church Extension, Council on Christian Unity, Disciples Home Missions, Disciples of Christ Historical Society, Division of Overseas Ministries and the Pension Fund of the Christian Church.

By act of the General Board funding for the National Benevolent Association has been suspended for 2005.

In 2004 we here in Ohio gave \$62,143.69. We need to support the Easter Offering because through our giving we are helping lead people to Christ through these various General Units of the Church. Isn't that what the church is about? Isn't leading people to Christ our top priority? We are doing that by transforming congregations and communities here and around the world. We are doing that by preparing tomorrow's leaders today. Indeed God has blessed us abundantly, let us share abundantly for every good work of God.

Response to Tsunami disaster

First Christian Church of Harrison took a special offering on January 2 for the Week of Compassion and received \$2,171.00.

Pastor Dr. William McConnell felt God calling the church to do more. He felt they should give an "entire" offering. The idea was a little un-nerving because, like most churches, they live close to the edge with their money and doing without a week's offering could push them over the edge. A vote by their 13-member Church board was unanimous in support of his proposal.

The following Sunday he announced to his congregation what had been decided. Their offering totaled \$10,377.85. It is one of the largest offerings this church has ever received.

Your opinion matters

On pages 7-8, you will find a survey about Camp Christian. The Camp Christian Committee is trying to get a better understanding of, and striving to meet the spiritual needs of, all the members of the Ohio Disciples' family. Please take a moment to fill the survey out. The survey is set up so that after it is filled out it can be folded in thirds, postage added, and placed in the mail. Your time and input is appreciated more than you know. *"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed citizens can change the world; indeed it's the only thing that ever has."* - Margaret Mead.

A Cup, A Cross, A Country

The first cross-continental communion service ever has been organized by Rev. Fred Jensen, pastor at Cleveland Heights Christian Church located near Buffalo, NY. It is called "A Cup, A Cross, A Country". The basic idea is to transport a large Chalice symbol from one coast of the United States to the other, from New York, NY to Portland, Oregon, to arrive just in time for the General Assembly in Portland in July, 2005. They are stopping at Disciples churches for communion services open to whomever is willing to come.

"The Cupbearers" will be coming to Northwest Christian Church in Columbus on July 11 at 7:30 p.m. This is an invitation for everyone-especially youth, college students and young adults -to come and join a pilgrimage. Participate by attending the communion service with others who wish to celebrate this cross-continental transit near home or by joining the convoy as a "Cupbearer" on the trip to Portland.

Rev. Jensen asks as many people as possible to come and participate in this unique service. He believes it heralds the beginning of a new paradigm our church is entering into. "This paradigm is one in which we put our trust in the New Covenant as proclaimed, enacted, and fulfilled by Jesus. Having done this, we will finally be able to put away all the arguments over doctrine that have divided our church (and the Church Universal) and discover our God-given unity. Such was the dream of the founders of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) - and such is our "polar star" - our constant quest."

The Buckeye Disciple

As we begin our fourteenth year of publication, we look to donations to underwrite the costs of printing and mailing *The Buckeye Disciple*.

In this issue you will find an envelope for your convenience in supporting the newspaper. Those who make a gift of at least \$100 join *The Buckeye Disciple* Patron Club and receive a special gift in appreciation of their support.

Please send your contribution and have your name on the 2005 Buckeye Disciple Honor Roll.

Spiritual insights

By William H. Edward, Pastor and President

He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If you want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me." - Mark 8:34

In my personal devotional time this Lenten season, this scripture has been very meaningful. I believe these words contain the heart of the Christian faith. The cross is a summons for all Christians to live by faith in the Son of God. The cross, with all of its offensiveness, pain and sorrow of a Suffering Savior, is the symbol of our faith. Jesus Christ truly saw his cross as a victory and not a defeat.

Many of us can testify that through our confession to Christ, through our relationship, He gave us new life, self respect, acceptance. He made us productive. But most of all He changed everything by offering us forgiveness.

However, the call to "take up our cross," is a call to do something with what Christ has done for us. It's a call to mobilization. It's a call to reach out.

The vision we have in the Christian Church in Ohio is calling us to be a covenant network of congregations in mission; we are the Body of Christ gifted and called in covenant together as Disciples of Christ to be centers of transformation on the new mission frontier of our own communities.

A "covenant network" means that we are intentional about our relationships; "centers of transformation" mean that our congregations become a place where individuals are transformed by the power of the Gospel of Jesus Christ and in turn our congregations are transforming the communities in which they are located.

Copy Due Date

Copy for the May/June 2005 issue of
The Buckeye Disciple
is due in the Regional Office by March 15, 2005.

The Buckeye Disciple

Published by:

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Contributions to underwrite this publication and change of address information may be sent to: *The Buckeye Disciple*

38007 Butternut Ridge Road
Elyria, Ohio 44035-8497

Printed and distributed by Pony X Press Printing Services, Reynoldsburg, Ohio 43068



During this Lenten/Easter season, I pray that all congregations in the Christian Church in Ohio, inspired by our vision, will "take up the cross" to follow Christ to an Easter victory in their ministries. For Easter gives us the assurance that, even in the darkest moments, God is working for our good, that God can bring victory out of defeat, hope out of despair, life out of death. Easter is not only about what happened close to 2000 years ago; Easter is also about what God is doing today and what God will do in the future.

May God's Blessings be with you, Bill

Interested in Disciples mission work?

Would you like to go on a vacation, but not be a tourist? Would you like to learn about another culture without going overseas? Want to make a difference in a person's life in only a week? Well here's your chance!

The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) is regionally sponsoring the 5th Annual Native American Work Camp Trip to Dzilth-Na-O-Dith-Hle, New Mexico July 9-16, 2005. The work can vary: fencing, cattle branding, animal care, installing playground equipment, painting, roofing, etc.

You can have an opportunity to learn beadwork, silversmithing, or ceramics from native artisans; listen to Navajo people tell of their history and customs; or visit Chaco Canyon and/or other native American historic sites. For more information contact Ray & Kim Gryder at Rgryder2@aol.com or (804) 691-4157.

Coming Events

Program

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| Mar. 3-5 | Anti-Racism Training, Radisson, Columbus |
| Mar. 5 | District 4 Leader Training Event, Howland Community Church, Warren |
| Mar. 5 | Equipping the Saints, East Columbus, Columbus |
| Mar. 7 | New Ministers' Orientation, Columbus |
| Mar. 8 | Sexual Ethics Workshop, Columbus |
| Mar. 9 | Anti-Racism Training, Columbus |
| Mar. 11-13 | CYF State Convention, Hiram College |
| Mar. 18-20 | Advance Spring Retreat, Camp Christian |
| Apr. 8-9 | OWM Younger Women's Retreat, Camp Christian |
| Apr. 11-14 | Black Ministers Retreat, Indianapolis, IN |
| Apr. 16 | OWM Convocation |
| Apr. 18 | Retired Clergy Retreat, Camp Christian |
| Apr. 29-May 1 | Disciple Fellowship Retreat, Camp Christian |
| May 7 | Camp Christian Open House |

Planning

- | | |
|------------|--|
| Mar. 15 | Commission on Ministry, Northwest Christian Church, Columbus |
| Mar. 22-24 | NIRF General Meeting |
| Mar. 31 | Ohio Disciples Outreach Committee, Camp Christian |
| Apr. 1-2 | CYF Youth Commission, Camp Christian |
| Apr. 2 | Chi Rho Commission |
| Apr. 8-9 | OWM Commission |
| Apr. 16-20 | General Board, Indianapolis, IN |
| Apr. 23 | Regional Cabinet, Camp Christian |
| Apr. 26 | Commission on Ministry, Northwest Christian Church, Columbus |
| May 3 | Executive Committee, Columbus |

Cast and crew call

It has been five years since the Ohio Region has produced a promotional video for our programs at Camp Christian. This past Fall, the Ohio Youth Commission agreed to oversee this project, under the direction of Amber Wearstler, a student at the Art Institute of Pittsburgh, majoring in Digital Media Production.

We will be producing three separate videos, one for Chi Rho, one for CYF, and one sharing Camp-wide programs and events to be available in the Spring of 2006.

This is a major project and cannot be done by just one or two people, so we are seeking help throughout the Region, people willing to volunteer their time and talent. This includes everything from actors to envelop stuffers. If you have an interest in the following areas, we need:

Actors (ages 15-26)	Illustrators
Graphic designers	Makeup Artists
Set designers	Costume designers
Sound Technician	Musicians
General helping	

We will have our first production meeting on April 2, at Camp Christian from Noon to 5p.m. (Lunch included). You must RSVP to Amber Wearstler (JoyPresentations@yahoo.com) or (412) 920-0578 by March 25.

If you wish to help in this project but are not able to assist in any of these specific areas, donations are always welcome to help finance the project. Donations can be made in honor or in memory of an individual or group, which will be recognized within the credits of the videos. All donations should be made to the "Christian Church in Ohio: Camp Video".

Together, through this Promotional Video, we can share the special ministry that is provided through our Camp Christian programs.

We thank you for your help and most of all for your prayers.

Women's Convocation

"*The Spirit: Receive It! Share It! Use It!*" is taken from I Corinthians 2:12-13. This is the theme for the 2005 Women's Convocation being held at Gender Road Christian Church in Canal Winchester, Ohio on Saturday, April 16. The Rev. Dr. Stephanie Crowder of New Covenant Christian Church in Nashville, Tennessee will be the speaker.

The event runs from 8:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. The cost is \$25.00 per adult, \$10.00 for the youth, and free for those under five years old. For more information, contact your OWM president, your local pastor or the Regional Office.

Reservation may be made at the Amerihost Hotel for \$52.00 plus tax for a non-smoking, double-bed room. Contact the hotel at 614-834-4793.

Disciples Men's spring retreat

Mark your calendar for the Disciples Men's spring retreat being held at Camp Christian on May 20-21. This event will be a Friday night/Saturday work experience. There are many projects around Camp Christian to complete after two seasons of construction. Men and teenage boys are invited to come Friday night and Saturday, or Saturday only, to paint, mow, landscape, clean, demolish, etc.

Cost will be \$25 for Friday night and two meals on Saturday, or \$15 for Saturday only. Please encourage men in your congregation to plan to come to camp for this important work event.

2005 Camps and Conferences

Partnership Camp

Cost: \$265.00

For children who have finished 3,4,5th grades.

Camp Otter	Pilgrim Hills	June 19-25
Camp Badger	Templed Hills	July 10-16
Camp Beaver	Templed Hills	July 24-30

Chi Rho Camps

Cost: \$220.00

For youth who have finished 6,7,8th grades.

Hocking	4,7,10,11,13/14	June 12-18
Cuyahoga	2,15	June 19-25
Portage	3	July 10-16
Maumee	1,5,6	July 17-23
Miami	8,9,12	August 7-13

CYF Conferences

Cost: \$220.00

For youth who have finished 9,10,11,12th grades.

Hiram	2,3,15	June 26-July 2
Phyo	4,7,10,11,13/14	July 3-9
Lakeside	1,5,6	July 24-30
Wilmington	8,9,12	July 31-August 6

Advance Conference August 14-21

Cost: \$220.00

For young adults who are 19 or have graduated from CYF Conference. The upper age limit is 29.

Adult Conference June 20-24

Cost: \$100.00

For all adults. It is held at Northwest Christian Church, Columbus.

Advance Conference spring retreat

Young adults who are 19 or have graduated from CYF Conference through 29 years are invited to attend the Advance Conference spring retreat being held March 18-20 at Camp Christian. The retreat will start at 8:00 p.m. on Friday.

For more information, contact the Regional Office.

Edwards to speak at Adult Conference

The theme of Adult Conference this year is "From Troubled Souls to Triumphant Spirits" and is being held at Northwest Christian Church in Columbus from June 20-24. This year's officers are Patty Worsham, President; Joanne Howard, Vice President; Deborah Bolen, Secretary; and Bob Thompson, Financial Liaison.

Wherever you happen to be in your own spiritual journey, there is something for you at Adult Conference. During the week you will have excellent opportunities for spiritual growth in our challenging and inspiring classes, get to know the Rev. Dr. William Edwards who is our daily Bible Lecturer, and enjoy tremendous worship each evening with our Vesper Speaker, Rev. James Schimmel. In the learning, worship, fellowship and fun, deep and lasting friendships can be made — and there is much more than this!

It's a little bit of heaven on earth, to quote Rev. Dick Felton and we hope you will plan to attend this wonderful event and discover this for yourself. Please see your minister for more information.



Harold Rorick, Rev. Michael Sinclair and Scott Braumiller

New pastor welcomed

On January 9, Rev. Michael Sinclair gave his first official sermon as pastor of Central Christian Church in Marion. He has been an active member of the Disciples of Christ since childhood. He was

born in Jamaica and in 1988 came to America where he is now a naturalized citizen. Sinclair has degrees from the United Theological College in the West Indies, and the Christian Theological Seminary in Indianapolis, Indiana. He became an ordained minister in 1988. Rev. Sinclair pastored several churches in Jamaica, and has been pastor and associate pastor in several Indiana churches. He is married and has a step-daughter presently residing in Jamaica who plans to join him in Marion as soon as possible. The official installation of Sinclair will be held on March 13.



Pictured: (front row left to right) Nicki Behr, Chardon; Wayne Robbins, Columbia Station; Denise Rising, Warren; Elsie Mohr, Garfield Heights; Bruce Botkin, Sidney; Betty Adams, Cedarville. (Second row) Greg Widener, Instructor, David Tietsort, West Chester; Glenna Knapp, Elyria; Wayne Enders, Ravenna; Martin Eble, Eastlake; Jeff Gill, Instructor; Harry Whitney, Reynoldsburg. Not pictured: Dean Harris, St. Louisville.

2004: Another Good Year for Ohio licensed ministry program

Twelve Disciples of Christ members participated in the licensed ministry courses offered at East Columbus Christian Church, Columbus Ohio in 2004. Jeff Gill taught an "Intro to Worship" course and Greg Widener taught an "Intro to Preaching" class. Both teachers thought this was a fine class of students and both enjoyed the experience very much.

The schedule for 2005 courses is:

- * Intro to Counseling, Ron Hooker, Instructor (UCC minister)
August 20 and 27, 9-4 at East Columbus CC, Columbus
- * Advanced Preaching, Greg Widener, Instructor
September 24 and October 1, 9-4 East Columbus CC or
October 8th and 15, 9-4 (Akron High Street)

Please note that there are two opportunities to take the Advanced Preaching class this year. Registration forms will be mailed to licensed ministers soon. Want more information? Please contact: Greg Widener;ECCC@worldnet.att.net; (614) 861-6220.



Keep the Fire Burning

Dear Ohio Disciples,

It has been a long Campaign, but it is almost completed. I am "rounding out" these figures, but they are very close:

New Total Campaign Goal	\$2,500,000
Donations to date	<u>2,415,000</u>
STILL NEEDED	\$ 85,000

I am so grateful to you for helping make this happen. Please do all you can (and by June 30, if possible) to help push us over the top. Any encouragement of additional gifts will help us make it! Please make sure that your congregation has reached its Goal, and/or that all the Pledges have been sent in!

This will enable us to pay all the bills, including our commitment to our "Mission Partners"!

Many, many thanks!

Pete Smith, Director

Senior housing complex turns 20

Heights Christian Church of Shaker Heights, Ohio, affirmed its affiliation with Campbell Court Apartments as it celebrated the 20th Anniversary of Campbell Court on Sunday, February 6, 2005.

The 81-unit HUD project was envisioned as a new mission frontier under the leadership of pastors Albert M. Pennybacker and J. Phillip Smith. It took sixteen years of negotiations among HUD, NBA, and the City of Shaker Heights before ground was finally broken in 1984. The first tenants took up residence following the dedication of the high-rise in 1985.

Campbell Court's affiliation with NBA ended recently. The local Board of Trustees, of whom 50% must be members of Heights Christian Church, continues to operate the project. HUD representative Phyllis Mitchell praised the local board for protecting Campbell Court's future.

Board President, C. Edward Weisheimer awarded staff members with plaques honoring their work. The top award went to Ruth Ann Vance-Lane, Manager, who has served on Campbell Court's staff since it opened. Honorees at the commemorative worship service included Campbell Court residents, past and present members of the Board of Trustees, and community officials, including Mayor Judith Rawson. Mary Anne Glover, Associate Regional Pastor, presented the congregation with a certificate for its ongoing ministry to Campbell Court.

Jayne Ryan Kuroiwa, Interim Pastor, preached for the occasion, encouraging Heights Christian Church to dream anew of mission goals that will take 10-20 years to accomplish.



Phyllis Mitchell, HUD; Ed Weisheimer, President, Campbell Court Board and Ruth Ann Vance-Lane, Manager, Campbell Court

Keep the Fire Burning



A Camp Capital Campaign of the Christian Church in Ohio (Disciples of Christ) as of January 31, 2005

+ Campaign Accepted, but Goal not set
*Matched or Exceeded Recommended Goal

	<u>Goal</u>	<u>Pledged</u>	<u>Paid</u>
<u>DISTRICT ONE</u>			
Bowling Green		120,060*	118,046
Clyde	5,000		5,220
Delta, Winameg	4,500		5,853
E. Chesterfield	4,000		4,616
Fayette	7,000		5,618
Fostoria	3,900		2,630
Genoa	2,000		2,000
Holland, New Hope	1,000		930
Lyons		15,000*	15,482
Oregon, East	9,600		9,700
Sylvania, First		1,500	1,000
Sylvania, McCord			2,200
Tiffin	12,000		2,667
Toledo,			
Hampton Park	7,500		7,695
Wauseon	7,500		11,235
<u>DISTRICT TWO</u>			
Cleveland			
Bedford			1,500
Bethany			10,125
Euclid Avenue	60,160*		48,214
Fifth Christian			1,230
Franklin Circle	+		1,466
Heights			2,000
Lakeshore		1,010	1,224
Olmsted	+		278
St. Phillips			100
West Boulevard		5,000	5,100
Elyria		41,360*	32,961
Grafton/North Eaton		18,400	16,666
Lakewood		19,480*	17,160
Lorain, Christian		19,310*	16,465
Westlake		111,805*	117,838
<u>DISTRICT THREE</u>			
Akron			
High Street		105,092	101,238
Firestone Park		6,171	4,416
New Horizons			10,000
Bailey Road	9,000		250
Barberton			2,000
Brunswick	+		1,446
Cuyahoga Falls, First	+		19,277
Hiram	8,000		7,304
Hudson	+		300
Kent	+		6,662
Macedonia, Shepard Rd	+		465
Mantua, Hilltop		13,034*	8,938
Mantua, Center		17,370*	20,037
Medina	+		3,315
Mogadore	+		2,665
Ravenna		16,000	13,516
Stow		15,000	11,569
Wadsworth		94,679*	284,360

DISTRICT FOUR

Canfield			1,365
Cortland Bazetta	24,000		17,101
Cortland, First	15,161		7,192
Girard	10,000		7,224
Howland			4,615
Hubbard	9,000		4,332
Newton Falls	3,500		4,895
Niles			7,726
North Bristol			115
Warren			
Central	30,000		5,300
Champion		15,080*	14,358
Lordstown		12,125*	12,919
Second	+		3,205
Third		7,200*	6,600
Youngstown, First		14,695*	12,084
Yo-Boardman			3,991
Yo-Wickliffe		1,468	1,594

DISTRICT FIVE

Bellefontaine	39,000*	39,285	
Findlay		901	
Kenton	+	3,307	
Leipsic		3,158	
Lima, Central	15,750*	15,410	
Lima, South Side	58,000*	58,050	
Paulding		2,384	
Sidney		1,370	

DISTRICT SIX

Ashland		19,903	
Bucyrus		6,290*	6,458
Mansfield, First		54,374*	41,021
Mansfield, S.Side	6,000		5,481
Marion	8,000		2,830
Mount Vernon	9,999		6,440
Shelby			1,136
Shreve		3,577	3,577
Wooster	15,000		15,489

DISTRICT SEVEN

Alliance	+	650	
Canton, Faith United	+	4,500	
Carrollton		1,941	
East Liverpool		7,787	8,552
Lisbon	+	1,000	
Massillon		1,535	
N.Canton, Community	50,000		37,923
Salem		3,500	

DISTRICT EIGHT

Kettering Central		73,213*	100,822
Dayton, Summit	+		1,577
Dayton, Northwest	+		32,101
Clayton, United		16,000*	15,724
Middletown		29,115*	23,044
Springfield, Central		23,773	9,413
Wilmington		38,230	32,705
Xenia			704

DISTRICT NINE

Col-Bethany		600	
Col-Broad Street		2,605	
Col-Community		2,240	
Col-Chicago Ave		50	
Col-East Columbus	9,000*	7,189	
Col- Fourth Avenue	9,000	6,351	

District nine continues

Col-Gender Road	24,000	19,681
Col- Karl Road	29,501*	26,931
Col-New Fellowship		100
Col-Northwest	53,223*	58,363
Col-Obetz		200
Columbus Metro Commission		1,020
Dublin, Saint Andrew	35,400*	24,802

DISTRICT TEN

Cambridge	32,657*	29,830
Coshocton	+	635
Crooksville, Maple Avenue	5,000	4,301
Hebron	12,000	7,487
Marietta	3,000	6,000
Newark	+	1,818
Walhonding		150
Zanesville	6,061	7,396

DISTRICT ELEVEN

Bellaire	7,363	1,193
Shadyside	6,000	2,070
Smithfield	+	100
Steubenville	15,000	13,544

DISTRICT TWELVE

Anderson Hills		7,230
Cin-Carthage	8,707	11,410
Cin-College Hill		1,100
Cin-Fifth	3,600	
Cin-Kenwood		7,620*
Cin-Kemper Road		8,000
Cin-Mt. Healthy		19,817*
Cin-Northside		50
Cin-Norwood		14,381*
Cin-United		4,702
Cin-Unity		3,600*
Cin-Walnut Hills		12,850*
Hamilton		26,472*
Harrison	33,000	45,565
Mason		63,000*
Okeana, Macedonia		6,224*

DISTRICT THIRTEEN/FOURTEEN

Athens		182,600
A-C Parish	1,187	1,287
Carbon Hill	+	1,000
Chillicothe		5,400
Hocking Valley Parish		
Chauncey	+	197
Glouster,		
Greens Run	+	618
Taylor Ridge	1,447	1,000
Millfield	+	198
Trimble	+	298
Jackson	+	2,150
McArthur		160
Nelsonville		300
Portsmouth	17,935	17,935

DISTRICT FIFTEEN

Ashtabula	15,568*	12,639
Chardon	22,032*	17,852
Geneva, Park St	+	500
Mentor	9,000	7,668
Novelty, Ledgewood	4,000	4,400
Perry	+	1,532
Willoughby	5,826	2,220



Cleveland Christian Home

David Lundeen, CEO

We live in tight economic times, but I am pleased to say that the Cleveland Christian Home is living within its budget and has a surplus through the first six months of the fiscal year. Much of this is due to the generosity of our churches and individual donors. The amount of development dollars received through December this year was 17% higher than the same time period for last year.

We continue to move forward with the new building. All of CCH's community based programs were moved into it on February 9 and 10. The staff loves the space and it is still very convenient for the children and families who come to see us. The first floor will be open to the community in about two weeks. The project will finally be completed by the middle of March. We will have an open house in the spring. All of you will be invited to attend.

We continue to provide more programming at Akron High Street Christian Church. Our Faith Based Initiative staff is hosting an orientation there this month. We continue to prepare to do more there with our Foster Care program. We are eternally grateful that the church has been so open and hospitable to us.

As we all move through this Lenten season in preparation for the wonderful celebration of Easter, please know that children and families who have struggled on their life's journey will experience the joy and hope of healing because of what you help us to do.

On behalf of those children and families, thank you. On behalf of the staff and Board of the Cleveland Christian Home, thank you.



Walk for the Kids 2005

The Cleveland Christian Home is sponsoring their annual "walk and 5K run" on Saturday, April 9 to help combat child abuse and neglect.

You may join others at the Cleveland Metroparks Zoo, Chapel Hill Mall in Akron or walk where you are. Walkers, runners, families, seniors, youth group, church groups, company teams, and service clubs – everyone is welcome. You can walk at your own pace.

For more information contact the Cleveland Christian Home at (216) 476-0333 or go to www.cchome.org/walk. Runners can register online at www.hmepromotions.net.

Heritage Day for Pastors' Classes

Pastors, mark your calendars! Historic Bethany will hold a Heritage Day for Pastors' Classes Saturday, March 20, 2004. Participants will engage in skits, tours, and scavenger hunts. All congregations are invited and encouraged to bring the Pastor's Class for a fun filled day that will give the children opportunities to interact, be informed, and get involved. The aim of this upcoming event is that participants in Pastor Classes be exposed to a wide variety of knowledge and information to bring their Disciples of Christ roots into perspective through the use of activities, learning centers, tours, and games. For more information and/or to reserve a spot contact Felicity Ruggiero.

With the help of Bethany College student and DHE Leadership Award recipient Rebekah Cypert, the students will learn more about Alexander Campbell and the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

With the Heritage Day, Bethany hope to bring Pastors' Classes together from different regions and states to share in their heritage. To make reservations, contact: Felicity Ruggiero, Historic Bethany, 304-829-4258 or historic@bethanywv.edu.

Seay to CTS

Interim Senior Minister, Scott D. Seay, First Christian Church in Ashland has accepted a call from Christian Theological Seminary to join the faculty as professor of church history. He looks forward to being in a position to influence directly the quality of ministers who will serve in our churches for the next generation.

Cleveland Christian Home Annual Golf Outing June 13, 2005



The Cleveland Christian Home is getting ready for the twelfth annual "Scramble for Kids" Golf Tournament scheduled for Monday, June 13, 2005, starting at 7:30 a.m. This year the tournament will be held at the Spring Valley Country Club in Elyria. For more information, call Mary Beth Cascio at 216-476-0333.

Camp Christian Survey

Please answer all the questions and return to Christian Church in Ohio. This page is already addressed on the back; so it just needs to be folded, stamped, and dropped in the mail. If you would rather email the answers, you can send them to stoddart@ccinoh.org. You do not need to retype the questions; just put the number and your answer. Thank you so much for taking time to fill this out. It is appreciated more than you know.

May God's blessings be with you and your family.

1. Home Church _____ City _____

2. Age Group ___ 18 or under ___ 19 – 29 ___ 30 – 49 ___ 50 – 64 ___ 65 +

3. When was the last time you attended an event at Camp Christian?

- ___ Within the past year ___ 1 – 2 years ago
- ___ 3 – 5 years ago ___ 6 – 10 years ago
- ___ Over 10 years ago

4. How often do/did you attend events at Camp Christian?

- ___ More than 5 times a year ___ Between 2 and 5 times a year
- ___ Once a year ___ Less than once a year

Please list events:

5. Are you actively involved in any of the following groups at your church?

- ___ Chi Rho
- ___ CYF
- ___ Advance (Young Adults)
- ___ Ohio Women's Ministries (former CWF)
- ___ Disciples Men's Fellowship
- ___ Adult
- ___ Other, please list _____

6. Do you attend activities sponsored by these groups held at Camp Christian?

- ___ Yes ___ No

Briefly describe why or why not

7. How knowledgeable are you about all the events offered year round at Camp Christian?

Extremely Somewhat Not at all

8. Please check next to 2 events that you might be interested in attending if they were offered

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Spiritual Life Retreats | <input type="checkbox"/> Prayer Seminar |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Evangelism Seminar | <input type="checkbox"/> Social Concerns Seminar |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Single Parents Retreat (with childcare) | <input type="checkbox"/> Married Couples Retreat |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Keynote Speakers (Various topics) | <input type="checkbox"/> Mission Work Seminar |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Divorce Recovery Retreat | <input type="checkbox"/> Bible Workshop |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mother/Daughter Retreat | <input type="checkbox"/> Father/Son Retreat |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

9. What is the ideal time frame for your lifestyle?

One day event 24 hour event Weekend retreat
 Full week retreat Other _____

10. Briefly Describe

What keeps you coming back to Camp Christian? _____

What has kept you away from Camp Christian? _____

----- Fold in thirds, add your stamp, and mail -----

**CAMP CHRISTIAN SURVEY
CHRISTIAN CHURCH IN OHIO
38007 BUTTERNUT RIDGE ROAD
ELYRIA OH 44035-8457**

Help Stop Sweatshops in the Fields: Boycott Taco Bell!

In the gospel of Matthew, Jesus teaches that the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who hired more day laborers than he needed but paid them all a full day's wage even if they only worked part of a day (Mt. 20:1-16). When some who had worked all day grumbled that this was not fair, the landowner explains that he has paid them the wage upon which they had agreed. Could it be that the landowner in the kingdom of heaven knows that all workers need a wage on which they can live? The kingdom's landowner established a floor below which no laborer can fall.

Day labor continues in the farming industry today. At 4:30 each morning Latino, Haitian and Mayan Indian immigrants gather in a parking lot in Immokalee, Florida, awaiting the arrival of buses that will take them to the fields to pick tomatoes. Though many come, not all are chosen. Those workers who are left behind return home to their trailer without any wages for the day. Those who are chosen to work will be delivered to the fields where they may spend additional hours waiting to begin harvesting and waiting whenever rain makes it impossible to work. The workers are paid only for what they pick. If they do not pick many buckets of tomatoes, they earn next to nothing.

In Immokalee, Florida, pickers who work in the fields harvesting tomatoes are paid 40-45 cents for each 32 -pound bucket they pick and haul. This is the average wage that workers received 20 years ago! At this rate, workers must pick and haul two tons of tomatoes to earn \$50. According to the Department of Labor, farm workers earn about \$7,500 per year. Further, in the past six years workers along with the Department of Justice have investigated, exposed, and prosecuted five cases of debt-bondage slavery involving more than 1,000 workers.

In 1996 workers formed the Coalition of Immokalee Workers, a community-based workers organization. The CIW is composed of workers and led by workers. Their motto is "from the people; for the people" and they have been successful in resisting wage reductions, decreasing the incidences of violence in the field, and drawing attention to the exploitative conditions under which workers labor. They are working to increase wages and improve working conditions. Because agricultural laborers are not covered by the National Labor Relations Act, growers are under no obligation to dialogue with worker representatives.

So the workers asked, who buys the tomatoes we pick? They discovered that Taco Bell, which is owned by Yum Brands – the largest fast food company in the world, is an important client of Florida tomato growers. The workers wrote and called Taco Bell, imploring it to use its power ensure growers in its supply chain paid workers fairly and respected their rights. But they received no reply. So the CIW called for a nationwide consumer boycott of Taco Bell in 2001. In June of 2002, the 214th General Assembly of the PC(USA) voted to support the CIW's boycott of Taco Bell restaurants and products .

The boycott has been endorsed by the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), United Methodist Church, United Church of Christ, Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), the American Friends Service Committee, the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee, the Alliance of Baptist Churches, the National Council of Churches and other regional and local religious bodies.

The CIW and those who support the boycott are calling for three-way talks among Taco Bell's parent company, Yum Brands, the

growers who supply tomatoes to the company, and workers; for Yum Brands to work with the CIW to establish a code of conduct that ensures labor rights for the workers and is independently monitored; and for an immediate increase in workers' wages. One way of raising wages now would be for Taco Bell/Yum to increase the per pound rate that it pays for tomatoes and ensure that increase was passed along to the workers. For example, each if Taco Bell were to voluntarily pay just 1 cent more per pound, and require its suppliers to pass that penny along to the pickers, that one penny could almost double the picking piece rate. If Yum/Taco Bell passed this cost on to its customers, this would translate into a price increase of about one-quarter of a cent per chalupe. It is indeed a small price to pay for the well-being of so many hard working but impoverished pickers. Because of the strength of the boycott witness, the PC(USA) was able to convene talks between Yum executives and the CIW last year and Yum has acknowledged that farmworkers are part of the company's supply chain. But Yum has not yet ensured change in the fields. Please boycott Taco Bell and let the company know of your decision. Let them know that the quality of their food is linked to the dignity with which it is produced. Fast food must be fair food. Encourage them to use their power to help stop "sweatshops in the fields".

Ways you can help!

(Go to www.pcusa.org/boycott for complete information and resources)

- .. Pray for the workers, growers, and Taco Bell.
- .. Pledge to boycott Taco Bell and write the CEO of Yum Brands, Mr. David Novak, at Yum! Brands Inc. at 1441 Gardiner Lane, Louisville, KY 40213.
- .. Saturday, March 12, join the CIW, people of faith, students, and human rights leaders for a peaceful mass rally in front of Yum Brands headquarters in Louisville. For details visit www.pcusa.org/boycott.
- .. Support the Taco Bell Truth Tour, Feb. 28 – Mar. 14 as it travels through the south, mid-west and to Louisville for a week of witness March 6 – 12. See the website for the itinerary and events.

A Prayer for Good Work and Human Dignity

God who labors and rests, you who intend good for all your children, we seek your wisdom and courage as we work to change the harsh conditions under which so many labor. We remember the farmworkers, the growers, Taco Bell and Yum Brands. We ask that we might be your witnesses for good work, fair pay, and human dignity. Help us to create the kind of vineyards that are a part of Jesus' heavenly kingdom. In his name we pray. Amen.

Mix in '06 women's event

The Mix in '06 is a one-time historic gathering of Disciples of Christ ICWF's Quadrennial Assembly and the United Church of Christ's National Women's Meeting. It will take place at the Indianapolis Convention Center on June 21-25, 2006. Be a part of history. For the latest information, including registraion and fundraising ideas, check out the website: www.dreamonsisters.com or contact Nicki Behr at 440-285-8791.

Ministerial change correction

In the last *The Buckeye Disciple* it was reported that John Longard had gone to Ashland. He actually is the new pastor of First Christian Church in Athens.



Janice Cuckler, Liz Iler (CWF president) and Tammy Lott with some of the health kits the CWF assembled on February 1 for church World Service.

Church World Service mission projects

The Department of Missions and Outreach Ministries of High Street Christian Church in Akron and the CWF joined together to sponsor a church-wide collection of items for Church World Service health kits. The CWF also sponsored Blanket Sunday to accept funds for the purchase of blankets for church World Service. Goals for each project were met and exceeded. A total of 118 health kits were assembled, and with the funds collected, 323 blankets can be purchased.

Joan Brown Campbell to speak

Ursuline College is sponsoring a graduate ministry workshop on April 15 from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Entitled “Dialogue in Concert: Many Voices Singing One Song”, it is about ecumenism, interfaith relations and pastoral ministry.

The event is being presented by Rev. Dr. Joan Brown Campbell an ordained minister and the Director of the Department of Religion at the Chautauqua Institute. Campbell is the first female to be Associate Executive Director of the Greater Cleveland Council of Churches; first woman to be Executive Director of the U.S. Office of the World Council of Churches; first ordained woman to be General Secretary of the National Council of Churches of Christ. She served with the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King who sought to secure freedom and dignity for African Americans through peaceful means in the 1960’s. Inspired by his work, she is currently working to improve relations between Jewish, Christian and Muslim traditions.

For more information, contact: Graduate Ministry Program at www.jgrillo@ursuline.edu or (440) 646-8195.

Black Ministers’ Retreat

On April 11-14, 2005, Disciples Home Missions is sponsoring the 31st annual Black Ministers’ Retreat. The event will be held at Light of the World Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Indianapolis, Indiana. The theme is “Whose Report Do You Believe?”, based on Numbers 13:26-33. Bishop T. Garrott Benjamin, Jr., Senior Pastor and Residing Bishop will be the host pastor.

Other presenters will be Preacher Rev. Dr. Cynthia Hale, Senior Pastor, Ray of Hope Christian Church, Decatur, Georgia; Bible Lecturer Rev. Dr. Frank Thomas, Senior Pastor, Mississippi Boulevard Christian Church, Memphis, Tennessee; and Preacher Rev. Dr. Alvin O’Neal Jackson, Former Senior Pastor, National City Christian Church, Washington, D.C.

For more information, contact Shirley Thomas at stthomas@dhm.disciples.com or toll free at 1-888-346-2631

Ohio leadership fund established

by Philip Hunt, Chairperson of the Ohio Disciple Outreach Committee

With the recommendation of the Ohio Disciple Outreach Committee and the approval of the Executive Committee of the Regional Board the Ohio Leadership Fund has been established. What is the Ohio Leadership Fund? It is an annual fund to help financially support the ministry and mission of the Christian Church in Ohio. It is an additional opportunity for individuals to give to the region. The goal for 2005 is \$25,000 of which \$5,000 will go into the Howard M. Ratcliff endowment fund for Camp Christian.

Financial contributions to the Leadership Fund have been made by members of the Ohio Disciple Outreach Committee, the Pastoral Staff of the Christian Church in Ohio and members of the Executive Committee of the Regional Board. If you would like to give to the Ohio Leadership Fund you may do so by sending your contribution to: Christian Church in Ohio, 38007 Butternut Ridge Road, Elyria, Ohio 44035 and marking your contribution – Ohio Leadership Fund

Ministerial Partner Standing Retreat

The Ohio Conference United Church of Christ and the Christian Church in Ohio (Disciples of Christ) are sponsoring a Ministerial Partner Standing Retreat.

This retreat is for all ordained ministers in the United Church of Christ and Christian Church (DOC) who would like to learn about the two denominations. This is a requirement if you are seeking Ordained Ministerial Partner Standing. For others, it is a great opportunity to gather with clergy from the two denominations in Ohio and learn about each other’s traditions.

This event will take place April 27-28 at the Ohio Conference UCC Conference Room in Columbus. The cost of \$25 covers materials, lunch and refreshments for both days.

For more information, contact LaTaunya Bynum (CC/DOC) 614-258-9567, or Forrest Hoppe (UCC) 614-885-0722.

CYF Picture Books 2004

The 2004 CYF Picture Books have been mailed out. If you did not receive yours, please contact the Regional Office at 440-458-5112. There are a few more books left if anyone would like to purchase one for \$6.00 plus \$3.00 for shipping and handling.

Staff presence in congregational worship

Mar. 5	Howland Community, Dist. 4 Lay Leadership Event	Bill Edwards
Mar. 6	Columbus, Northwest, Dist. 8 Men's Rally	Bill Edwards
Mar. 6	Mansfield, First Christian	Mary Anne Glover
Mar. 6	Akron, New Horizons Christian	Roger McKinney
Mar. 10	Millfield Christian Lenten Service	Bill Edwards
Mar. 12	Akron, High St., Chrstian, Men's breakfast	Bill Edwards
Mar. 13	Marion, Central Christian, Installation	Mary Anne Glover
Mar. 13	Hiram College, CYF State Convention	Roger McKinney
Apr. 3	Columbus, Broad Street Christian	Bill Edwards
Apr. 10	Akron, High Street Christian	Bill Edwards
Apr. 10	OWM Commission	Mary Anne Glover
Apr. 10	Akron, Ghent Christian, Preach	Roger McKinney
Apr. 17	Middletown, First Christian	Roger McKinney
Apr. 24	Columbus, East Columbus Christian	Bill Edwards
Apr. 24	Bellefontaine, First Christian, Preach	Mary Anne Glover
Apr. 24	Cuyahoga Falls, Bailey Road, Preach	Roger McKinney

Fred Craddock twice

Nationally acclaimed preacher, Dr. Fred B. Craddock will be speaking on two upcoming occasions. He is the Bandy Distinguished Professor of Preaching and New Testament, Emeritus, in the Candler School of Theology at Emory University.

On Sunday, April 24, Craddock will be bringing the message at a special worship service for all Christians. This homecoming event will take place at 4:00 p.m. at Central Christian Church of Kettering in Dayton. Rev. David Turner, Pastor of Central, will bring the message at the 10 a.m. service.

For all preachers, Dr. Craddock will be presenting a "preaching" workshop on Monday, April 25 from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. There is no charge for the workshop but attendance is limited and registrations are being taken.

For more information, contact Central Christian Church at office@ccc-ket.org or 937-254-2649.

What is Return to the Garden?

Join Disciple Home Mission for the launching of a nationwide program, *Return to the Garden*. The program will start with a three-day workshop to be held July 20-23 in White Swan, Washington, at the Yakama Christian Mission Center.

Workshop participants will learn how to organize community gardens on their church property or within their communities. The emphasis will be on the importance of gardening as it relates to food quality, ecological stewardship, sustainable living, and social and co-justice issues. The goal is for participants to recognize gardening as an entry point into an environmental consciousness.

As our culture continues to fragment into inner city, urban, and rural communities, we no longer have a shared cultural experience or even a common language. Returning to the land-by way of the garden-changes that. Whether growing flowers in Los Angeles or squash in Des Moines, reconnecting with the Earth connects people with their communities and with each other.

Immediately following the workshop, participants will take their learnings to the July 2005 biennial General Assembly in Portland, Oregon. There they will spend some time during the three days of Vision Fest promoting the concept of community gardening to the 5,000 or more Assembly attendees through the use of a hands-on display garden, small group presentations, and resources developed specifically for Return to the Garden.

If you are interested, visit www.homelandministries.org/GeneralAssembly2005/ReturntoGarden.htm for more information related to the costs, schedule and registration. Contact Angela Herrmann with questions, aherrman@dhm.disciples.org or 317-713-2683.

Mission Opportunities at General Assembly

Learn ways your mission outreach can make a difference in the life of the church. Attend the 2005 General Assembly in Portland Oregon, July 23-27.

At the Assembly, you'll discover ways to get your church involved in national and global outreach efforts. Plus, you'll be able to participate in a variety of mission opportunities that help the local community. Be a part of it!

Register to attend the Assembly at [www.http://www.disciples.org/ga05/index.htm](http://www.disciples.org/ga05/index.htm)

For special airfare and car rental rates, click on the "travel information" link at the registration site.

Jesus calls you into service at the General Assembly

There are three ways to participate and be a part of this year's General Assembly:

1. Hands-on Involvement

Work with the hungry at food banks and community gardens; help paint a gym in an old church and more.

2. Arms-out Involvement

There will be a blood drive during the assembly. It is as easy as claiming a time, laying down and sticking out that arm...and you'll save a life!

3. Fingers Movin' Involvement

Something new this year that is happening throughout the assembly is Prayer shawls and Quilts of Hope. You can learn to knit and take a shawl into a session with you. Bring it back and let someone else add on to it. OR you can come by the local mission booth and tie a knot in a quilt to be given to the homeless or abused. Just tie one knot and you've helped keep someone warm! Needed: Congregations to supply un-knotted quilts. Go to Website for instructions.

For more information go to www.discipleshomemission.org/VIM or call 1-888-346-2631 and speak with Brenda.

How can ODV help your congregation?

The Office of Disciples Volunteering continues to partner with regions affected by disasters, and each summer they offer locations needing volunteers to help with relief and recovery.

If your church wants to plan a work trip the office of Disciples Volunteering has two resources to help get you started:

ODV Resource Manual – This manual lists over 200 locations needing volunteers. They range from disaster sites to locations such as rural and inner cities. You will find some trips sponsored by ODV that are completely set up for you. In other cases you will be given contacts who will try to find projects to fit your interests and abilities. The Disciples Volunteering manual is \$5 per Disciples congregation.

Get Dirty for Jesus Manual – This is a step-by-step planning guide to help you plan a work trip (whether it's a day-long local event or a week-long work trip). There is information for planning trips for adults, youth and families. Included in the manual are fund raising ideas, worship ideas, Bible studies, forms, and scheduling helps. This manual is \$7.50 per Disciples congregation and \$10.00 for each additional one.

ODV offers leader development training trips at least twice a year. You can send representatives from your congregation on a trip to receive training to lead a trip. The locations vary each year. The cost is \$100 and includes a training book, t-shirt, housing, food, insurance and transportation on site. You are responsible for transportation to the trip. Information on these trips is in the Disciples Volunteering manual and on their website: www.discipleshomemission.org/Volunteer/office.htm.

Oreon E. Scott Lectures

The 50th Oreon E. Scott Lectures and Ministers' Workshop will be held April 4-5, 2005 at Bethany College, Bethany, West Virginia.

Rev. William Chris Hobgood will be the lecturer at the Mountainside Conference Center at Bethany. To register and to make room and meal reservations, contact Judy Pyle in the Office of Church Relations at 304-829-7723 or orpyle@bethanywv.edu.

The Buckeye Disciple

38007 Butternut Ridge Road
Elyria, Ohio 44035-8457

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Disciples Fellowship Retreat

April 29-May 1 is the Disciples Fellowship Retreat. Come and enjoy the fun and fellowship of Disciples of all ages at Camp Christian. Everyone is welcome! For more information contact Bev Sajna 440-333-1264, sajhome81@yahoo.com or Bob Stands 440-236-5778, rstands@aol.com.

GREAT START

GREAT START is an effective wedding preparation and early marriage ministry that not only benefits the couple, but also will renew and grow a congregation. North Canton Community Christian Church is sponsoring a 4-hour training workshop on April 11, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., entitled "Turn Beautiful Weddings Into Lasting Marriages."

The facilitators are Dr. R. Robert Cueni, President of Lexington Theological Seminary and Rev. Carla Aday, Ministers of Community Development at Country Club Christian Church.

Participants workshop fee of \$40 cover lunch and one set of training materials. Registration deadline is April 1, 2005. For more information contact Janice Geib at jgeib@northcantonccc.org or 330-499-5458.

Church remembers its own

The CWF of Anderson Hills Christian Church in Cincinnati undertook two service projects in February showing concern for members who are not able to attend regularly: college students and military personnel received packages of cookies to remind them they are being thought of by their church. Care baskets featuring soup were taken to shut-ins to remind them that others in addition to the pastor and the elders remember them. Nik Donges is the pastor.

Open house at Camp Christian

We are the Body of Christ gifted and called in covenant together as Disciples of Christ to be centers of transformation on the new mission frontier of our own communities. **How does Camp Christian fit into all of this?**

Come and find out May 7, 2005, from 1:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m. Learn about all the amazing opportunities happening 365 days at Camp Christian for **all ages**. Whether you are in Chi Rho, a member of 50 plus, or anything in between, there is something going on at Camp Christian for you. We are also looking for new ideas to make sure that everyone has something at Camp Christian to look forward to during the year. There will be free snacks and beverages provided and of course wonderful fellowship with Disciples from around Ohio. If you have any questions feel free to contact us at 440-458-5112, or stoddart@ccinoh.org. We hope that you will all join us there.

In covenant together, we are gifted and called to become true community and develop growing faith through training, mentoring, and service.

Angie Williams

Angie Williams died January 30, 2005. For a number of years in the early 1990's, she was president of the Ohio Christian Women's Fellowship (OCWF); now known as Ohio Christian Women's Ministries. She was the wife of Ronald Williams, a retired Ohio Disciples pastor. A memorial will be held for her on Saturday, March 19 at the First Church of Christ in East Liverpool.