



# *The Drummer*

**November 4, 2009**

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

**FALL FOOD DRIVE:** Our Fall Food Drive kicked off Sunday, November 1<sup>st</sup>. The Mission Board will again be supporting three very important organizations: CRS, Haven Center and St. Paul's. The drive will run until November 15. Stop by the display before or after each service on Sunday to get more information and to make a donation. The Mission Board members have purchased some of the food and other items requested by those groups; now it is up to you to donate so we may fulfill all their needs.

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8:** Worship and Sunday School at 9 and 11 AM. Dr. Brill's sermon, "What Comes from the Heart is Blessed," is based upon Mark 12:38-44. Inquirer's session for prospective members at 12:30 PM. Please call the church office if you would like to attend, so we can plan for food and babysitting needs.

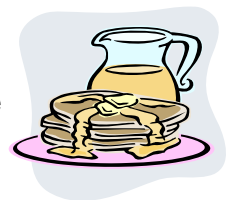
### **SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15: BRING A FRIEND SUNDAY**

Mark 13:1-8 is the morning scripture. Dr. Brill's sermon is entitled, "Do Not Be Alarmed." The Board of Membership invites you to bring a friend to church on November 15. We're having a pancake breakfast after each service, too! Do you have a new neighbor or coworker who doesn't yet have a church family? Are you friends with someone who doesn't go to church? Do you know someone from this congregation who has become inactive? Ask someone to come to church with you. Invite him or her to sit with you, or ask if you can pick them up. The friend you invite today will then have a place to worship during Advent and Christmas!

**PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS:** You are invited to a series of two Inquirer's Classes to be held in November. The first session will be Sunday, November 8, at 12:30 PM and will focus on information about the UCC denomination. The second session will be Sunday, November 15, also at 12:15 PM and will provide information about this congregation, including an opportunity to meet lay leaders and a tour of the facility. A light lunch will be provided, and babysitting is available upon request. Please RSVP by calling the church office (440-933-3241) or emailing [pastor@thealucc.org](mailto:pastor@thealucc.org). Please give the number of people attending and the ages of children who will need babysitting. New members will be welcomed into the church on Sunday, November 22. If you're interested in membership, but cannot attend these sessions, please contact Kelly Brill (440-933-3241 or [pastor@thealucc.org](mailto:pastor@thealucc.org).)

### **ALUCC PANCAKE BREAKFAST ON NOVEMBER 15<sup>TH</sup>**

Tickets will be sold prior to both services and the breakfast itself. Prices are \$5 per adult, children ages 3-12 are \$3 and children 2 and under are free. Chocolate chip pancakes will return, featuring Perkins pancakes and sausage links! Hope to see you there!



## **A WORD FROM KELLY**

I lead an Adult Bible Study group that meets weekly at 10 AM on Wednesdays. Usually we read and discuss the scriptures for the upcoming sermons. During December, we are engaging in a book study. For three Wednesdays in December (Dec. 2, 9 and 16), the Adult Bible study class is reading and discussing the book, The First Christmas, by Marcus Borg and John Dominic Crossan. Borg and Crossan are biblical scholars who take a fresh look at the different versions of the Christmas story. If you would like to join the group, let me know. I have a few copies of the book available for \$11.00 each (and we can buy more.) Join the group each week, or just for December!

## **WOMEN'S CHRISTMAS DINNER**

All women are invited to enjoy an evening of excellent food and soothing music on Wednesday, December 9, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. in the Chapel. Mary Pease and Karen Wirtz will be providing the meal with two choices: Beef tenderloin in port wine sauce with rosemary, smashed red-skinned potatoes, roast asparagus with parmesan cheese or Pork tenderloin with orange garlic vinaigrette sauce, twice baked potatoes with three cheeses, glazed carrots with ginger and almonds. In addition there will be tossed salad with candied nuts, cheese and mandarin oranges and an array of delicious desserts. Tickets are \$17.00 each and will go on sale Sunday, November 8<sup>th</sup> after each service. There will be a limited number of tickets available, so get yours early and don't miss out on a relaxing evening with the women of the church.

## **MISS SINGING?**

Were you in a choir in high school, or college, or in another church? Are you a past member of an ALUCC choir, and do you miss it? On Sunday, December 13, at 11 AM, the two ALUCC adult vocal choirs are singing Vivaldi's "Gloria." You can join in singing for this special worship service – and/or for other Advent and Christmas Eve worship services – by joining the choirs now for rehearsals during November. The Sanctuary Singers (9 AM choir) rehearse at 7:30 on Wednesday evenings. The Chancel (11 AM) Choir rehearses on Thursday evenings at 7:30. If you have questions, please contact Mary Fancher ([fancherie@aol.com](mailto:fancherie@aol.com)), Fri

## **DID YOU KNOW?**

Kelly's thesis has been added to our library. Very interesting. Come in and check it out. Look for: *Electric (Boulevard) Preaching 2009*.

**ALUCC BOOK CLUB:** The ALUCC Book Club will meet on Tuesday, November 17 (note the change from the regular date), at 7:00 p.m. to discuss *When a Crocodile Eats the Sun: A Memoir of Africa*. This non-fiction book by Peter Godwin about his own family is a sad yet inspiring story told against the backdrop of the collapse of the country of Zimbabwe (formerly Rhodesia) under the leadership of dictator Mugabe. All are welcome to join the discussion.

## ALUCC WINTER RETREAT

Pack your sleeping bags, grab your sleds and get ready for a weekend of fun and fellowship all in the beauty of God's creation! We have reserved space at Pilgrim Hills camp for the weekend of February 19-21 for an all-church retreat. Join Rev. Kelly, Marilyn and Nate for a few days away from the hustle and speed that dictates so much of our lives to relax and recharge. The cost for 2 nights of lodging and meals is as follows: Adults (age 13 and above) \$60.00; Children (age 10-12) \$30.00; Children (age 3-9): \$15.00.

**SPACE IS LIMITED! Reserve your spot with a \$15.00 deposit per person BY NOVEMBER 30<sup>th</sup>!** Don't miss all the fun and sign-up today! There will be something for anyone and everyone! There will be much more information about this retreat coming soon! Keep your eye on the Drummer and the website for all the latest!

## PARISH NURSE NEWS

- **Parish Nurse Hours:** Wednesdays, 2:30 – 4:00 p.m. Evenings by appointment (confidential line 930-4766). Email: [cherylupdegraff@oh.rr.com](mailto:cherylupdegraff@oh.rr.com)
- **Diabetic Support Group:** Wednesday, November 11 @ 6:30 p.m.
- **Grief Support Group:** Sunday, November 22 @ 4:00 p.m. The holidays can be very difficult when you've lost a loved one. Rev. Kelly Brill will share steps to live with and heal from loss, especially as we approach the holidays.
- **Tree of Remembrance:** this is an important part of remembering our loved ones. An engraved angel is placed on the tree for members of our congregation that have died, as well as cloth angels for 'friends' of our church. For those who would like to purchase an angel in memory of a loved one or friend, forms are at the Welcome Center or in the church office. The cost of the cloth angels is \$5.00; the engraved angels are \$10.00. The deadline for returning the forms to the church office is Sunday, November 29<sup>th</sup>.
- **Service of Remembrance:** Sunday, December 6 at 4:00 p.m. An important part of the Holiday Season is reminiscing and remembering loved ones that are deceased. It has become a tradition in our church to have a Service of Remembrance at the beginning of the Holiday Season. Following the service there will be a time of sharing and fellowship.

## A NIGHT AT THE THEATER

Some UCC friends are interested in getting a group together to attend Huntington Playhouse to see the very meaningful play, *It's a Wonderful Life*. The performance is December 11 at 8 PM. Call Jane Barthels, 933-5185, for more information.

**APPLESAUCE FOR SALE:** Granny Smith and Jonathan Macintosh along with Jon's cousin Jona Gold have hung around at Spiegelbergs orchard all summer, waiting with great anticipation for the women of Hannah circle to pick them up. Their wait is over; they have made their way to ALUCC'S kitchen. There was quite a party going on in the kitchen and they became sauced. This great applesauce prepared by the women will be available on Sunday November 8<sup>th</sup> after the service. Cost \$1.75 per pint. Proceeds will go to CRS and the Dominican Republic Medical Mission project.

## **MISSION TRIP TO DOMINICAN REPUBLIC**

We have decided to return to The Dominican Republic next February (2/13 to 2/27/10). If anyone is interested in accompanying us on a life changing experience, please contact us as soon as possible. Medical background is not necessary. As usual we appreciate all the help you give us such as clothe bags, medicines, toothbrushes and small toothpastes, small shampoos and soaps from motels, etc. Thank you in advance.

Bill & Bev Stives

**COFFEE HOUR:** Please sign up to host or co-host an upcoming Coffee Hour! It's such an important part of our community life – both for old friends wanting to connect and for new guests wanting to meet others. The Board of Deacons will answer any questions you might have. Instruction sheets are available on the website and at the Welcome Center. Remember – Coffee Hour doesn't have to be elaborate. Thank you!

**ALUCC PRAYER LIST:** We update this list at the beginning of each month. Please contact the church office by phone (933-3241) or email ([pastor@thealucc.org](mailto:pastor@thealucc.org)) to send an update or to add a name.

**New on the Prayer List:** Louis Pena (former student of Kimm Hill) recurrence of cancer.

**Members with Health Concerns:** Larry Arnold, Carolyn Cerney, Edie & George Horst, Ellie Mental, Clark Montgomery, Bruce Peepers, Rosie Stuebner, Bette Uhle, Tom Walther.

**Members Receiving Treatment for Cancer:** Linda Brown, Jeremy George, Marilyn Sommer.

**Friends and Relatives Receiving Treatment for Cancer:** Barbara Boyte, Tom Brunner, Carol Gould, Becky Grendow, Carl Grendow, Jane Laird, Linda Norman, Lisa Norman, Lisa Nusbaum, Sally Rapp, Sharon Russell, Susan Stoner.

**Friends and Relatives of Members:** Jane Bates, David Boyte, Mac Carr, David Davis, Alice Eger, Brandon Hiller, Clem Hodge, Karen Holdridge, Patricia Kowalski, Connie Remein, Sam Taylor, Larry Verga.

**In Hospice Care:** Dottie Crawford

**Congratulations** to Dan and Stacey Lopriore on the birth of their sons, Vincent Anthony and Nicholas Daniel, Thursday, October 22.

**Serving Overseas:** Franklin Abbey, Raimil Hathaway, Jeremy Horning, Charles Parker, Tadd Schultz, Brandon Turner, Stacey Vetter.

Please remember our members who are homebound and in rehab or nursing home care.

**REMINDER:** If you or a loved one are in the hospital and wish prayers or visits from the church, please call the church office. Otherwise, we may not know you're there!

**EAGLE SCOUT COURT OF HONOR:** All ALUCC members are invited to an Eagle Scout Court of Honor for Jonathan Spielberger, in the sanctuary on Sunday, November 22, at 3 PM. Jonathan is asking his guests to bring one personal item for the Haven Center: shampoo, soap, toothpaste, deodorant, etc.

## NOTES OF THANKS

We would like to thank everyone for the cards, calls, and expressions of sympathy given when my sister, Judy, passed away. Judy and Dick had no church family, which made us miss our church family even more. It's wonderful to be part of such a caring community.

Paul & Molly Dunford

Thank you for all your support of my mom and dad during this difficult time. It was much easier heading home to Virginia knowing that in addition to my sister, my mom also has her church family to support her.

Sincerely, Carol Eisenmann

## LETTER FROM THE BOARD OF STEWARDSHIP

November, 2009

Dear ALUCC Members and Friends,

The Board of Stewardship is committed to providing you regular updates on the financial status of the church. Today, we are in the middle of our Stewardship Campaign which was kicked off on Sunday, October 18<sup>th</sup> featuring a DVD with members speaking candidly about why Avon Lake UCC is an important part of their life. It was very well done! Thanks to all for making it a special part of this year's campaign – especially Fran Fisher.

We continued to be challenged by the current economic environment. Our member pledges revenue for the July-September timeframe is traditionally our lowest quarter of the year, and 2009 was no exception. We collected \$119,431 vs. a budget of \$137,751 or 13% less than our budget for the third quarter. Year to date, we have collected \$384,656 vs a budget of \$413,256 or a 7% shortfall. Like I said, it's not uncommon to fall behind during the summer months. But, it's important to try to make up this 7% shortfall by year end so not to impact the activities that support the mission and ministry of our church.

The Stewardship Board is working closely with the other church boards to monitor spending levels and conserve where we can. We continue to look for ways to reduce costs and your ideas in this area are always welcomed. We were successful in our Church Auction raising over \$16,000 of which half will go for needed upgrades in the Jack and Jill Nursery. Thanks to all who contributed their time, talent and treasures to make this a successful auction – especially Jason Peterson.

Thank you for your continued support of our church and for your willingness to help close the budget gap by the end of the year.

Mike Rademacher and Steve Furrer

**BENEFIT CHRISTMAS CONCERT:** Avon-Avon Lake Rotary sponsors "Twas the Night," a concert with the Cleveland Pops Orchestra and the Avon Lake High School Chorale, Saturday, December 5, 2009, at 7:30 PM at Avon Lake High School. Purchase tickets from Avon Lake Printing, Avon Lake High School, or Avon-Avon Lake Rotary members. Tickets are \$25.00 before November 15, and \$30 afterwards.

## **A NOTE FROM THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

The Nominating Committee is actively searching for both new members, and those who have been members for some time, to participate on various boards and committees serving out church. It's a great way to meet and work with new people, strengthen existing friendships, and help in those activities and ministries of our church. In addition to making calls, including to those who are eligible for an additional term, the nominating committee members will be available during the coffee hours over the next couple of weeks to provide information and accept volunteers. Come and see what interests you and join in this walk that is the ALUCC. Thank you.

**YOGA CLASSES BEGIN:** Saturday morning yoga classes are presently being held from 11 – 12:00 weekly from now until the end of December, at which time we will hopefully negotiate a longer term. This hatha yoga class is for all ages and levels, and is free to members of United Church of Christ, at least until the end of December. The class is taught by Debby Suarez who has been practicing yoga for over 20 years and teaching for over 10 at LCCC and other locations. This class unites the body, mind, and spirit in a beautifully, spiritual environment. All are welcome to attend.

## **AVON/AVON LAKE RELAY FOR LIFE'S 1<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL VENDOR/CRAFT FAIR SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 9 AM - 4 PM AT AVON LAKE UCC**

Come start your holiday shopping early. We will have over 20 vendors/crafters available to help you find the perfect gift for that someone special. Purses, jewelry, home décor, handmade crafts, and more! Food, drinks and baked goods will be available. There will also be a 50/50 raffle. Admission will be \$3.00. We hope you can come and support the 2010 Avon/Avon Lake Relay for Life!

## ***GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY SHOW***

Join in the music and fun as the Golden Crescent Chorus celebrates fifty years of barbershop harmony, **Saturday November 7**, at the Daniel B. Ross Performing Arts Center, Avon Lake High School. Two great shows, **2 PM and 7:30 PM**, feature the 50-man **Golden Crescent Barbershop Chorus** and internationally acclaimed **Saturday Evening Post** quartet, plus guest performances by Johnny Apple Seed District Senior Champions **Over Easy** and **Youth in Harmony** quartets. General admission for both shows is \$10; students \$5; reserved seating for the evening show \$15. For tickets, phone 866-599-2870, go online at [goldencrescentchorus.org](http://goldencrescentchorus.org), or contact Dave Shepard 440-933-6169.

## MISSION TRIP ASSISTANCE

Our friends, Cindy and Dave Anthony, are going on a mission trip to Thailand this fall. They have been asked to help facilitate a Bible Conference with the theme: "Implementing Partnerships to Fulfill the Biblical Mission". Their U.S. fellowship of churches is hosting the conference in Bangkok, Thailand and has invited over 9000 churches to attend. The goals are to encourage the Asian church through sound Biblical teaching, development of Asian-US local church partnerships, and facilitating Asian-Asian partnerships for the furtherance of the Gospel in Asia. They are working to raise money to offset the cost of the trip by offering a computer clean-up service, which would include the removal of spyware, viruses, worms and all those other annoying things that make your computer slow. In return, they are asking for a donation for their trip. (\$100 is suggested, the geek squad would charge a minimum of \$150 for this service!!) Time slots are available each Friday in November. This can be done remotely, which is the preferred, or by dropping your computer off at their house. If you are interested, go to [supportdaveandcindy.com](http://supportdaveandcindy.com) and follow the directions. Thanks in advance for your support.

Brad & Bev Johnson

## FAMILY PROMISE/IHN EMPTY BOWLS DINNER PROMOTES NATIONAL HUNGER AND HOMELESSNESS AWARENESS WEEK

Help fill the needs of homeless families in Lorain County by supporting **Empty Bowls**, a simple soup-and-bread dinner to benefit Family Promise/IHN on Thursday, November 19th from 5:00 to 7:30 p.m. at Oberlin Community Services, 185 S. Professor Street, Oberlin. Tickets--\$10.00 for adults, \$3.00 for children under 13. Everyone will receive a small hand-made bowl. Takeout is available. There will also be a raffle – Kalahari overnight stay, Cleveland Orchestra, Nutcracker tickets, etc: \$1 each or 6 for\$5. For more information or to purchase meal or raffle tickets contact Diane DePould at 440-933-3932 or e-mail at [ddepould@oh.rr.com](mailto:ddepould@oh.rr.com)

## TOWNE CENTER OPPORTUNITIES

- **Neck & Back Pain Presentation:** St. John West Shore will present *Do You Have a Pain in the Neck or Backside?* on Tuesday, November 10 at 2 pm at the Towne Center Community Campus Clubhouse, at 200 Community Drive. Join us and learn the causes of neck and back pain as well as the latest medical and surgical treatment options, including nutrition and exercises from our Spine Educator. Please call 440-930-6750 to reserve your space today.
- **John Kowalski:** Entertainer John Kowalski will be performing on Monday, November 16 at 2 pm at Avenue Assisted Living, 400 Community Drive. Join us for an afternoon of singing and fun! John puts on a great show for all – we hope you'll be able to stop in and enjoy! Please call 440-930-6700 for reservations.
- **FREE Pancake Breakfast:** All seniors are invited to Towne Center Community Campus for our FREE Pancake Breakfast on Friday, November 20 from 9-10:30 am. The breakfast will be held in the community clubhouse at 200 Community Drive. For reservations please call 440-930-6750.

## ALUCC REMINDERS

**DID YOU KNOW**...that you can contribute to the church through an Electronic Fund Transfer (EFT)? Many people like to pay their bills automatically. It's convenient for you, and the church appreciates the steady income throughout the seasons. Contact Valerie Tanzilli in the church office for more information.

**STAMPS:** Please bring in your used postage stamps and place them in the box outside the office. The Post Office Dept. has now fixed stamps so they cannot be soaked off the envelope paper, so please leave approximately ¼ inch of paper around the stamp for trimming. Also please leave postcards whole. This is a Women's League fundraising project. Thank you.

**RIDES TO AIRPORT OFFERED:** Jim Wise will provide transportation to and from the airport to any member, in exchange for a donation to the church. If you ever need a ride to the airport, and/or a pick-up, please call Jim at 440-933-3120 (home phone) or 216-337-8537 (cell phone.)

**COPIES OF THE BOOK *PILGRIM PRAYERS FOR MEALTIME*,** written by former ALUCC minister Alexander Campbell are available in Kelly's office. The cost is \$12.00.

**UPCOMING GREETERS, USHERS, ACOLYTES, COFFEE HOUR HOSTS**

**November 8: 9 AM** greeters: Ron & Jean Forster

ushers: Eric, Jenny, Mitch & Adam McManaman, Mike & Bonnie Rademacher

Acolytes: Kevin Knip and Raven Witzigreuter

Coffee Hour: The Gee Family & the Matt Zakel Family

**11 AM** greeters: Doug & Sandy Rider

Ushers:

Acolytes: Kristen Hards and Erin Johnson

Coffee Hour: Barb Fuerhoff, Judy Marshall, Agnes Gehrke, Lois Hartsel, Doris Webb, and the Parsons

**November 15: 9 AM** greeters: Bill & Bev Stives

Ushers: Richard Turner, Doris Webb, Joyce, Don, Jake & Emily Young

Acolytes: Parker MacDonald and Rebecca Plow

No Coffee Hour – Pancake Breakfast

**11AM** greeters: Rob, Cindy, Grant, Cole & Lauren Thatcher

Ushers:

Acolytes: Grant Thatcher

Coffee Hour: Mary Martha Circle and Pancake Breakfast

**PATCHWORKS** is on Channel 99 this week Nov 4 – 11 at 3 am, 11 am, 7 pm. It features the Interfaith Hospitality Network.