

# August Issue



2010

## A Message from Rev. Ron

It hardly feels like it, but fall is here (that is, if you ask students, teachers, or TV executives). So despite still-toasty temperatures, we consider it "fall" at church too.

It's the time of year we gear up for exciting programs like the "Living Faith" series that you'll see mentioned here. "Living Faith" is an exploration of the basics of our beliefs, something that's appropriate for both those new to Christian faith and those who want to dig a little deeper into the faith they've been living. Since there are several options for this series, I hope you'll consider when to participate. If there are children in your life, there will be an educational series for them at the same time.

The **All-Church picnic on September 12** will be our launching pad for all things "fall". It brings the church family back together after all the summer travels and activities. We'll enjoy outdoor worship that day on the beautiful lawn behind the church, and then continue the fellowship with a potluck luncheon on the grounds. That's also Rally Day, when we welcome children back to Sunday School. In order to have the whole church family united that day, we will not be having worship on Saturday, September 11.

If you have a friend, neighbor or relative seeking a church home, give them a personal invitation to worship with us. The picnic is a great way to introduce them around and help them feel at home in our warm family of faith.

Rev. Lavon Bayler has written words of a new hymn, set to the tune Finlandia, which we know as *Be Still My Soul*. May it be our family's song as we reunite in study and fellowship this fall.

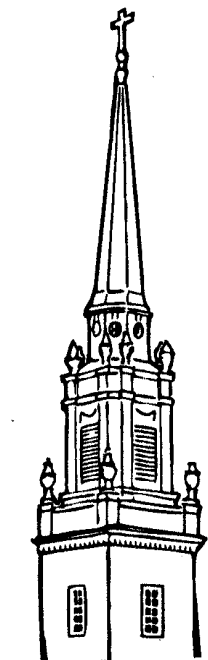
Ron  
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Transform our hearts, O God, in Jesus' name.  
Let love be central to our words and deeds.  
To follow Christ in all things is our aim,  
To be responsive to our neighbor's needs.  
Heal us within, and strengthen us to stand  
For truth and justice in your promised land.

Transform our families, that your will may be  
Worked out among us in our daily lives.  
Help us to listen when we disagree,  
And do those things on which affection thrives,  
When anger flares, turn us away from wrong,  
And let forgiveness make our union strong.

Transform our churches, that we may discern  
The goals and dreams you want us to pursue.  
Prompt us to grow in ways that help us learn  
All that is good, acceptable, and true.  
With joyous thanks, we worship and adore  
One God whose love surrounds us evermore.

May we together, be renewed this day,  
And honor Christ in all we do and say,  
That when we part our lives may still display  
The joys of following your perfect way.  
Conforming not to views the world may hold,



# THE SPIRE

The Bi-Monthly Newsletter of Olmsted Community Church

7853 Main Street Olmsted Falls, Ohio 44138 Phone: 440-235-3326

## BEHR FACTS....

We recently completed another successful Vacation Bible School program. We were excited to welcome 95 students. In spite of five days of 85°+ temperatures, everyone had a grand time thanks to the 15 adult and 40 student super volunteers who made it all happen. A special thanks to **Mary Lou Bark** who was co-director and commander of our Galactic Space Ship. **Janet Lehman**, the teacher of the 4-year old class, shared this adorable poem about VBS entitled "Ain't".

*He was just a little boy on a week's first day.  
Wondering home from Bible school, and dawdling on the way.*

*He scuffed his shoes into the grass; He even found a caterpillar  
He found a fluffy milkweed pod, and blew out all the "filler."*

*A bird's nest in a tree overhead, so wisely placed up so high  
Was just another wonder, that caught his eye.*

*A neighbor watched his zigzag course, and hailed him from the lawn;  
asked where he'd been that day, and what was going on.*

*"I've been to Bible school," he said and turned a piece of sod.  
He picked up a wiggly worm replying, "I've learned a lot about God,"*

*"M'm very fine way," the neighbor said, "for a boy to spend his time.  
If you'll tell me where God is, I'll give you a brand new dime."*

*Quick as a flash the answer came! Nor were his accents faint.  
"I'll give you a dollar, Mister, If you can tell me where God ain't."*

## FROM YOUR DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

### SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL BLESSINGS

*Feelings Grow, Too* was the theme for the Sunday morning program for children 2<sup>nd</sup> grade and younger. Throughout the summer they explored the feelings of love, joy, wonder, fear, sadness, shyness, hurt, forgiveness, satisfaction, anger, self-esteem and curiosity. They were blessed to be lead by: **Cynthia & Seth Tomasch, Nancy & Natalie Gasper, Cathy Richard, Mary Ann Gamber, Judy Collins, Gail Hall and Holli Ilko.**

### CONFIRMATION 2010-2011

The Confirmation program for the 2010-11 year begins with a Confirmand/Parent meeting on Monday, August 16 at 7:00 PM in Fellowship Hall. Students 8<sup>th</sup> grade and older who have not been confirmed are invited, along with their parents, to make plans for the year. Please bring your personal, school, and sports calendars with you. The students we have identified as potential candidates are: **Brandon Dunlap, MacKenzie Ferguson, Michael Gasper, Sophia Kish, Deborah Makari, Andrew Oltmanns, Lindsay Rader, Megan Rahm, Mark Schindler, and Tyler Weidner.** If you know of others who should be on this list, please call Nicki at 235-3326 or e-mail to [nickilbeh@aol.com](mailto:nickilbeh@aol.com).

## PIE FEST

Come one; come all to our first annual Pie Fest on Sunday, September 12 (Rally Sunday) hosted by the Board of Education! Festival will include a pie baking contest, pie eating contest, pie walk and pie toss. Candidates for the pie toss include Rev. Ron, Nicki Behr, Andy Clawson, Larry Duffy and Joe Duffy. The candidate who collects the most donations will receive a pie in the face. Start collecting your loose change and keep your eyes open for the collection jars at coffee hours beginning August 29<sup>th</sup>. A silent auction will be held September 12 to determine the thrower for the pie toss. The Board of Education is asking for \$3.00 donations to participate in the pie eating contest and pie walk; \$5.00 to enter the baking contest. We will also be auctioning off the winning pie. All proceeds from the Pie Fest will benefit H.U.G.S. More information will follow in the Bridge and weekly bulletins or see Nicki Behr or Marijo Rickel.

## FALL LANTERN FELLOWSHIP – September 17-19 at Pilgrim Hills

Lantern Fellowship is an adult retreat offered to the women of the UCC Ohio Conference. It is a time when women, ranging in age from approximately 25 to 80+ years, come together to enjoy good food, warm and friendly hospitality, and the peaceful, quiet beauty of wooded hills and trails where the spirit can find renewal. The retreat runs from 3:00 PM on Friday to lunch on Sunday. The \$135 cost covers lodging, meals and program. For more information check it out at [www.ocucc.org](http://www.ocucc.org).

## SEPTEMBER 19 ~ KICK-OFF OF FALL PROGRAMMING

*Living Faith – Exploring the Essentials of Christianity* for adults and *Molly Pickens & the Rainy Day Castle – Unlock the Mysteries of Jesus' Love* for K-5<sup>th</sup> grade have been added to the fall line-up of programs. You also have your choice of days; either Tuesdays at 7:00 pm beginning September 14 or Sundays at 9:00 am beginning September 19. For more information or to register, go to our website, [www.olmstedcommunity.org](http://www.olmstedcommunity.org). A video trailer for Molly Pickens may be found at <http://www.cokesbury.com/forms/ProductDetail.aspx?pid=838883>. Pre-registration is helpful to make sure we have enough handbooks for the adults. The K-5<sup>th</sup> program will be presented on Tuesdays only if there are students pre-registered. Call Nicki Behr with questions.

WoRM (Workshop Rotation Model) for K-5<sup>th</sup> grade begins with a look at the Parable of the Good Samaritan. Rotations include Computer with Mrs. Reimer, First Aid with Mr. Hale and a Movie with Mrs. Strohmenger.

Other programming beginning on September 19 is the Adult Class (using the Wired Word curriculum) and the Senior High class at 9:00AM; and the Preschool class (ages 3 and 4) and the Pre-confirmation class (grades 6 & 7) following dismissal from worship.

## FROM YOUR BOARD OF TRUSTEES

- ◆ Thank you to everyone who helped with the food trailer at Heritage Days.
- ◆ We are in need of help with weeding of the church grounds. Please come up at your convenience and pick an area.
- ◆ Mark your calendar to join us for Falls Day in the Park on October 3rd

## FROM YOUR BOARD OF CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

Board of Congregational Life created a float for Heritage Days parade August 19.

We held a Family Movie Night in July. Eighteen people enjoyed the evening. We are hoping to do this again in the fall. Thanks to Andy Gardner, Board of Trustees, Scott McDonald and Scott Pritchard for help purchasing and installing the new screen in Fellowship Hall which makes watching movies special.

Mark your calendar for the all church picnic Sunday, September 12. Watch for more information in the Bridge and Weekly Bulletin.

Those who are visiting or calling the elderly or shut-ins, please remember to record it in the book outside the office so we are able to coordinate the visits.

## FROM THE JEFFERIS FAMILY

Fun and fellowship was had by all at this year's UCC Grandparent /Grandchild Camp at Temple Hills. We had 5 grandkids there ages 6-10 coming from Michigan and N Carolina.



If you have not yet experienced a UCC camp, please see Nicki Behr for information.

## VISITATION MINISTRY

There is a notebook outside the church office for people to sign up if they would like to visit one of the elderly home-bound members of our church. It contains a list of people to visit and some other helpful information as well. Simply sign your name, who you are visiting, and when, so the Board of Congregational Life can keep track of how many visits people are receiving. Thank you for your time. It is greatly appreciated.

## SUNDAY MORNING VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Please consider helping with one of the following positions. Please do not assume someone else is going to volunteer. J

*Two shepherds for WoRM rotation.* The shepherd stays with the students as they rotate from station to station. There is no teaching involved. It provides a consistency – especially for the younger children. The only requirement – caring for children. You would alternate with another shepherd doing one rotation at a time (4 weeks) for a total of 16 – 18 weeks during the school year. Note – off for Christmas and Easter!

*Preschool teacher.* This person would work with another team person alternating months. With a youth helper, you would read a story, do a craft and facilitate independent play.

*Video coordinator for the 9:00 AM. program.* You would co-facilitate with another adult doing 5 of the 10-weeks of special programming beginning September 19 and concluding on November 21. After the opening you would show a ten-minute video with some brief follow-up activities.

*Costume coordinator.* This is not really a Sunday morning position, but we are looking for someone to keep our costumes cleaned, pressed and updated. This can be done in your own time-frame.

## CHOIR PICNIC

All choir members, those who wish to join the choir, and their significant others are invited to a picnic at the home of Frank and Pat Jefferis, 14461 Cherokee Trail, Middleburg Hts., on Thursday September 2, at 6:00 PM. Bring your own meat to cook and buns if needed. Bring a dish to share with 10 friends and a chair for each person. We will provide beverages, condiments, and table service (knives, forks, spoons, plates, cups, etc). Please call 440-826-0960 by Monday, August 30 to let us know you are coming and what you are bringing. We will attempt to insure that we don't get 25 veggies and no desserts!

## FROM YOUR BOARD OF MISSIONS

### CHRISTMAS IN JULY

Bruce & Bonnie Smith and Ed Muckley graciously and lovingly took 19 bags and boxes of children's clothes, diapers, toys, food and formula down to the Providence House as the results from the Christmas in July Tree. In addition to the above, there also was a generous monetary total of \$200. Our Board wishes to commend the generous outpouring of love in the middle of this hot, hot summer!

### ST PAT'S DESSERTS

It is that time again for us to help with desserts for St Pats on Tuesday, September 14th. Please have your goodies to the office by 12Noon on that day. Thank you!

## CHURCH PICNIC AND OUTDOOR WORSHIP

Our annual All-Church Picnic will be held **Sunday, September 12th** at 10 a.m. on the lawn behind the Sanctuary. Various groups are planning games, music and activities to round out the great fellowship.

*There will be no Chapel Worship on Saturday, September 11 so that we can be united as a church family at the picnic.*

*SPIRE is published 6 times a year. Article deadline date for the Sept/Oct issue is September 15th. Please email your article to [occ@olmstedcommunitychurch.org](mailto:occ@olmstedcommunitychurch.org) or drop off your article in electronic format to the Church Office by that date. SPIRE IS NOW ON OUR WEBPAGE TOO— SHARE THE NEWS OF OCC WITH FAMILY AND FRIENDS! Thank you!*

### Olmsted Community Church

7853 Main Street Olmsted Falls, Ohio 44138 Phone: 440/235 - 3326 Fax: 440/235 - 3327  
Website: [www.olmstedcommunitychurch.org](http://www.olmstedcommunitychurch.org)

#### OCC Staff

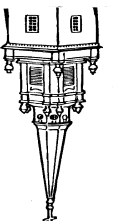
Rev. Ron Dauphin, Pastor      Nicki Behr, Director of Education      Kimberlee Bublik, Administrative Assistant  
Sandy Ferington, Choir Director      Diane Cieslak, Organist      Katie Cross, Pianist  
Scott McDonald, Custodian      Gratian Nugent, Director of Music Emeritus

#### Worship Schedule

Saturday 5:00 p.m. in the Chapel      Sunday 10:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary

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7853 Main Street  
Olmsted Falls, OH 44138



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