

# THE ACCELERATOR

Volume 1, Issue 1  
March 10, 2008

## NEW NEWSLETTER FOR YOUTH

Hello, and welcome to the first edition of the newsletter for Full Throttle For Change. It's called The Accelerator (get it—Full Throttle....Accelerator—ok, bad joke, but that's what it's called anyway.....).

This newsletter will be published on an as-needed basis—which means, don't expect one every month, but when we need to get information out to you, we'll send one out. Sometimes, it's hard to get the info you need from the church newsletter—maybe you don't even read it—so we wanted something you could put up on your refrigerator that's just for youth news. And hopefully, it will also be on the church's website. That

way, those of us who have too much paper to keep track of can always get online and see what's going on.

We are open to changing the newsletter's name, so if you have any suggestions, please let us know. If anyone would like to publish the newsletter or write articles, let us know that, and we'll be glad to help you get set up!

Making a newsletter like this was kind of a spur-of-the-moment thing (and, I admit, I didn't even talk to Kyle about it before I started—I just wanted to get info out to you and thought this was a good way to do it). So, the look may change



a little as we go along, and maybe we can add some pictures next time. But, hopefully, you will find this to be a good way to keep up with what's going at youth group—because, when we changed our name to Full Throttle, we meant it! There's a lot going on, and you are a big part of it!

## FULL THROTTLE=RESULTS!

The Souper Bowl of Caring was a huge success. We raised \$135 worth of soup and donations on Super Bowl Sunday, which was donated to the Johnstown Food Pantry. Ray and Elnora Roberts delivered the items for us.

Our Sub Sale, besides being a total blast, raised \$262 for our summer mission trip (see more on the mission trip inside this newsletter). We are going to need to have other fundraisers to be able to make this trip, so please give your sug-

gestions and make a commitment to BE THERE to help out!

The Youth Room painting is coming along really well, thanks to the Famine participants. We'll finish painting after Easter.

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### Need to contact a youth leader? Here's how!

Eva Marie

740-893-2181 (home)

740-817-3119 (cell)

[crotonumc@gmail.com](mailto:crotonumc@gmail.com)

Kyle

614-286-3946 (cell)

740-893-2281 (home)

[kyle2388@hotmail.com](mailto:kyle2388@hotmail.com)

# HEIFER RANCH MOO-VING ALONG JUNE 15-20

Our date for the Heifer Ranch mission trip is June 15-20. Based on the available dates at the ranch, it had to be set either that week, or the first week of June (but we might still be in school then :-| ) or fair week (and I guess you know THAT wouldn't work out!)

Please see the enclosed flyer for details on the trip, which is called Summer Action. We will enjoy a 12-hour drive to Arkansas, just outside of Little Rock (if you thought Croton was out of the way, wait until you see Perryville). We arrive at Heifer Ranch at 7 pm on Sunday and finish up at 10 am on Friday.

We will spend four nights in a lodge, and one night at the Global Village. We'll have a chance to learn a lot about world hunger in a busy and active environment, including high and low ropes courses, and we will do service projects



at the ranch. We'll also learn how to make the most of the resources we have. You can look up more details about our experience and see some videos about what we'll be doing at [www.heifer.org](http://www.heifer.org). This is going to be way better than spending the week at the mall or in front of the TV!

I need to know AS SOON AS POSSIBLE if you are going. The cost of the trip is \$335 per person plus travel expenses. We are hoping that fundraising will cover most (or all) of the fee. Please let me know by March 31 if you will be going. Friends are welcome to sign up,

at the same cost and must also make a commitment by March 31.

Interested adults are welcome to come with us (the cost is the same). I have tentatively told Heifer that we will have 10 people, but we can take up to 17 people.



## HEIFER Ranch

## ARMORY ROCK CONCERT

You probably thought this could never happen, but it IS going to happen! Croton UMC is sponsoring a Christian Rock Concert by a real, head-banging metal band!

On April 20, 2008, we will be hosting the group Armory. The location is still being worked out, so watch for details

**ARMORY**  
*Christian Metal for the END TIMES*

coming very soon.

We want to get the word out to everyone we can about this concert—other youth groups and youth organizations, and other churches, so tell all your friends and please let us know of anywhere we can advertise this

concert.

If you want a preview of their music, you can check out Armory's MySpace page, [www.myspace.com/armorytheband1](http://www.myspace.com/armorytheband1). Go ahead and crank it up—(but don't tell your parents I said so)—but DO tell them that this is the hottest Christian band in the area and that they are coming to town next month!

Watch for more details coming soon!

## AND A WHOLE DIFFERENT KIND OF MUSIC....

On Palm Sunday, March 16, Miller Memorial United Methodist Church is hosting a Gospel Quartet, One Less Stone. We will be attending this concert after our meeting.

*Next Sunday, March 16*  
*Meeting 5 pm—Concert 6:30 pm*

So...we will be meeting at a special time, 5 pm—6 pm, and then we will be traveling together to Miller Memorial to see the concert. There is a permission slip inside this newsletter. Please have your parents fill it out and bring it with you on Sunday! (I'll have some extras with me in case anyone needs one.)

One Less Stone is a highly regarded Men's Southern Gospel Group. It may not be your typical style of music, but it

will be a great experience, and the music and lyrics will be very meaningful as we approach the final week of Lent and consider the Passion of Jesus Christ during Holy Week. After all, Easter is not **really** about bunnies and eggs!

Miller Memorial says, "Your hearts will be blessed, your toes will tap and your hands will clap! What better way to spend time together on a Sunday evening as we head towards Easter?"

# SUMMER MUSIC FESTIVALS

We have some decisions to make if we want to go to a summer Christian music festival! There are several available that combine camping and music and other fun events. We would see groups such as Casting Crowns, TobyMac, Jeremy Camp, David Crowder, Kutless, Skillet, Hawk Nelson, Family Force 5, Leeland, Grits, and Stellar Kart.

Here's the schedule for these events:  
 Ichthus: June 11-14, Wilmore, KY  
 Alive '08: June 18-21, Canal Fulton, OH  
 Creation Fest: June 25-28,  
 Mount Union, PA

Unfortunately, Alive '08 falls during the Heifer Ranch trip, so we can't go to that one this year. Ichthus begins dur-

ing Annual Conference, which creates conflicts for some of the adult leaders (mainly me and maybe Charles, if he wants to go to both) and some of their kids (Patrick, Erin and Jenna). Ichthus also ends right before we leave for Heifer Ranch. Creation Fest is the farthest away (about 5 hours from here). Also, they are all in June, which is going to be a busy month already. So, it is very important that you look at your June schedule and let us know what you'd like to do. Anybody know of any held in July?

If we go to a festival, we will probably need additional adult chaperones, so, especially if your

parents like camping (or Christian music), ask them if they'd like to come along!

Cost of tickets to these festivals is about \$100. Ichthus only charges \$20 plus a refundable \$25 deposit to volunteers who work a 9-hour shift during the festival.



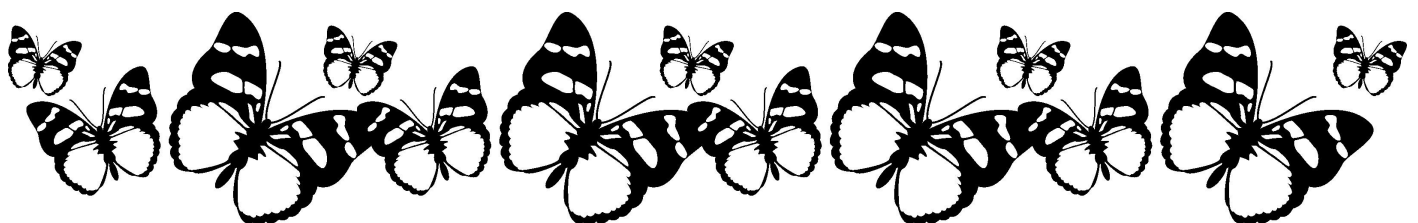
## OUR SCHEDULE FOR MARCH AND APRIL

### March

- Sun, March 2 No youth group (see March 6)
- Thu, March 6 5:00 pm Service project—set up and serve during Christ in the Passover presentation
- Sun, March 9 12:00—2:00 pm Pack-a-lunch day (which turned out to be a snow day)
- Sun, March 16 5:00—6:00 pm Meeting, then trip to Miller Memorial Gospel Concert
- Sun, March 23 No youth group—Happy Easter!
- Sun, March 30 12:00 pm All-Church Event—Lunch and Laugh

### April

- Sun, April 6 4:00-5:30 pm Meeting
- Sun, April 13 12:00-2:00 pm Meeting—rescheduled Pack-a-Lunch Day
- Sun, April 20 evening (TBD) All-church event—Armory Concert
- Sun, April 27 ??? Event to be determined—please give your input!





# Heifer International Learning Center

# Summer Action

Service participants engage in a journey of personal growth. They commit to the value of serving others through interactive learning, community building and work projects. Participants connect with a community that is actively working to end hunger and poverty while caring for the earth.



Activities include:

**Global Gateway** - During this overnight activity, participants will explore their cultural identity and discuss similarities within the global community while examining issues of population, resource distribution, quality of life and standard of living. They will engage as a group in a series of initiative games to develop their communication and problem-solving skills, prepare their own dinner and breakfast, and participate in daily chores similar to those our project partners do each day.

**Heifer Challenge** - Challengers increase their awareness of environmental and hunger related issues through the use of globally themed team-building initiatives and challenges that provide an emotionally safe environment to encourage reflection and self growth. This program includes both low and high elements.

**Sign-up Activities** - Sign-up activities include service projects and additional education programs. Service projects include helping with general Ranch chores, gardening, working with livestock, composting, and other Ranch projects. Additional education programs involve hands-on activities that teach more about Heifer International’s mission and how the participants can make a difference.

### Summer Action Program Requirements

**Minimum Age:** 12 years old or completed the 6th grade

**Minimum Group Size:** 10 participants including adults

**Adult to Youth Ratio:** 1:5

**Per Person Tuition Fees:** \$335 (Non-profit Rate)

**Tuition Fees Include:** lodging, programming and meals

**Offered:** June - mid-August; program begins at 7 p.m. and continues until 10 a.m. on the day of departure

“This was a life-changing week for all of us! We are driving our families crazy as we are attempting to implement some of the conservation techniques we learned, and so many parents came up to me yesterday saying that their teens could not stop talking about their experience last week.”

Saint Timothy's Episcopal Church  
Signal Mountain, TN



It was such a wonderful experience for all of us. The programs that you offer are an excellent way of experiencing world communities.

- Youth Group Leader





# Croton United Methodist Church

## Permission Form

*This form applies to overnight events, off-site events, events involving church-provided transportation, and special events at which children/youth are not under parental supervision.*

### EVENT INFORMATION

**Destination/Type of Event:** Gospel Quartet Concert, Miller Memorial UMC

**Date(s) of Event:** Sun, March 16

**Departure/Begin Time and Location:** Croton UMC, Friday, 6 pm

**Return/End Date, Time, and Location:** Croton UMC, Friday, approx 8:30 pm

**Emergency Name and Phone Number the group can be contacted at:**

Eva Marie Wolfe, 740-893-2181 (church/home) or 740-817-3119 (cell)

**Cost to participant:** none

**Participant should bring:** nothing needed

**Other information:** We will have a youth meeting at Croton UMC at 5 pm until we leave for the Gospel Concert at 6 pm. Youth are welcome to attend the youth group meeting even if they cannot attend the concert, and to attend the concert even if they can't attend the youth group meeting.

Please keep the top portion of this permission form for your information and return the bottom portion to the adult leader of this event.

My child, \_\_\_\_\_, has my permission to attend and participate in the following Croton United Methodist Church-sponsored event:

**Destination/Type of Event:** Gospel Quartet Concert, Miller Memorial UMC

**Date(s) of Event:** Sun, March 16

**Departure/Begin Time and Location:** Croton UMC, Friday, 6 pm

**Return/End Date, Time, and Location:** Croton UMC, Friday, approx 8:30 pm

Emergency contact number where I can be reached during this event: \_\_\_\_\_

Secondary emergency contact number (Name and #): \_\_\_\_\_

Comments (health problems/allergies/custody/other items to be aware of):

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Parent/Legal Guardian Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Legal Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_


**FULL THROTTLE FOR CHANGE**

Croton United Methodist Church  
Full Throttle for Change  
PO Box 127  
Croton OH 43013

Phone: 740-893-2181  
Fax: 740-893-4411  
E-mail: [crotonumc@gmail.com](mailto:crotonumc@gmail.com)

*Our website:*

*[www.crotonumc.worthyofpraise.org](http://www.crotonumc.worthyofpraise.org)*



We're going  
**FULL THROTTLE!**