

October 2008
Edition
Eva Marie Wolfe,
Pastor

**T
H
E

M
E
S
S
E
N
G
E
R**

Wes Baker,
Editor



CROTON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Lifting Up Jesus for the Glory of God

75 North High Street

Croton, Ohio 43013

Praise Service 9 A.M. Sunday School 10 A.M. Morning Worship 11 A.M.

Phone: 740.893.2181 Fax: 740.893.4411

E-mail: crotonumc@gmail.com

Web Site: www.crotonumc.worthyofpraise.org



There is the story of a pastor who got up one Sunday and announced to the congregation: 'I have good news and bad news. The good news is, we have enough money to pay for our new building program. The bad news is, it's still out there in your pockets.'

As United Methodists, we pledge to support our church with our prayers, our presence, our gifts, and our service. Each of these is equally important to the life of the church, and each one is like a coin we hold in our pockets. As we celebrate our Harvest Festival this year, I urge you to consider the "coins" you "hold" in your "pockets."

***Prayers** – One of the most powerful things we can do for any situation, person, or institution is to pray. When we support our church with our prayers, we ask God to reveal to us His will for our congregation, and the ways that we as a congregation are best suited to accomplish His will for us. A regular, active prayer life engaged in by the people of a congregation will produce unbelievable blessings for a church!

***Presence** – Our time is one of the most valuable assets we have. In today's hectic world, it seems as though there isn't enough time in a day, a week, a month, or a year. Sometimes, I have to remind myself to take time to breathe—do you? Giving your time to be present in worship on Sunday, or in Sunday school, or helping with an event at church, or supporting an event with your attendance, is a great gift that only you can give.

***Gifts**—As diverse members of the body of Christ, God has given us each different gifts, with the intent that we will come together as one body and use our varied gifts to accomplish God's work in the world. All gifts are given by God, and all gifts are used by God when we

are willing servants. When we use our gifts for the sake of the church, we join together with our sisters and brothers to complement each other's talents in order that, as a complete body, we praise God by using what he has given us for the benefit of others.

*Service—A congregation can only accomplish its mission in the world if its people are willing to serve. Jesus himself gave us the most true and complete picture of what service looks like—service to God and service to other people. By following Jesus' example of servant leadership, we can be to our congregation, to our community, and to the world, the hands and feet of Christ. There isn't any greater honor we can receive, than to someday hear God's words spoken to us, "Well done, my good and faithful servant."

Each one of us has been given a slightly different "currency," but all are meant to be taken out of our pockets and placed into the "offering plate" of opportunity that God places before us. If you leave your "coins" in your pockets, you can make a lovely jingling sound—but if you take the "coins" out of your pocket and use them to build up God's church (listen closely now!) you will hear all of heaven rejoicing!



Shalom,
Pastor Em

WORSHIP



October is one of those months in which we celebrate many things. We begin the month with World Communion Sunday, during which we joyfully recognize that Christians all over the world sit at Christ's table with us this day. On October 12, we will have our

Harvest Festival, celebrating God's good gifts to us. October 19TH is Laity Sunday, in which celebrate the many gifts and graces of the laity. On October 26, we close the month by recognizing United Methodist Men's Day, as we celebrate the contributions of men to the life of the church.

October 5: World Communion

Scripture: John 6:23-40

Message: A Feast for the World

Description: Jesus calls himself the Bread of Life, sent by God to give eternal life to all who believe in him. On this day, we celebrate at Christ's table with believers from all over the world, knowing that neither the language we speak, the color of our skin, our age, our income level, nor any other difference between us is more important than the love of Christ we share.

October 12: Harvest Festival

Scripture: Deuteronomy 26:1-11

Message: With Thankfulness and Joy

Description: The ancient Israelites were commanded by God to bring the first fruits of their harvest in the Promised Land, and offer them in thanksgiving for God's blessings. We, too, bring our first fruits on this day and rejoice because of the blessings that God has given us.

October 19: Laity Sunday

Our lay leader, Charles West, will be leading worship as we celebrate the role of laity in the life of the church, as we offer our appreciation to those who lead and participate in ministries in our church.

October 26

Scripture: Psalm 112

Message: The Measure of a Man

Description: Today the United Methodist Church recognizes United Methodist Men's Day. We celebrate the gifts and graces of men of God, who bring blessings to their families, friends and communities as they devote themselves to the service of our Lord.

Record of Faithfulness

Weekly Budget:
\$1,565.00



Date	Atten.	S.S.	Tithes
Aug 31	41	28	\$1342.00
Sep 7	63	32	1249.00
Sep 14	46	26	1325.00
Sep 21	51	30	1383.10

CHURCH NEWS



Women's Circle

United Methodist Women.

Although the wind storm caused us to cancel September's meeting, we are ready for October! We will be meeting on Thursday, October 16 at 7 p.m. at CHARLOTTE AND JOY'S home to continue our study of Israel and Palestine, peace/shalom, and positive people. Please start collecting shoeboxes and items to fill them with for our

Operation Shoebox Day on November 13.

Angel Food Ministries. Orders for October may be placed at the church on Wednesday, October 12 from 10 am – 12 pm and Thursday, October 9 from 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm. Orders placed at the church must be paid for by cash, money order, cashier’s check, or EBT card (food stamps). If you place orders online on our church’s website or at www.angelfoodministries.com (choose our church as the host site) you may pay by credit/debit card. All orders must be placed by Sunday, October 12.. Pick-up date for October is Saturday, October 25 from 9 am – 11 am. Orders can be picked up on Saturday, July 26 in the fellowship hall from 9 am – 11 pm.

Please see the enclosed letter regarding our annual Harvest Festival, to be held on October 12, with special music by Roy McKinley and a carry-in lunch following the service. Harvest Festival is a day to celebrate God’s blessings together!



Enclosed in this newsletter is a list of officers and team members for 2009. Please note that there are a few positions yet to be filled, such as Lay Member to Annual Conference. Also, we are looking for someone who would be interested in sending news about our church to local newspapers on a regular basis. If you are interested in these or any other positions, please contact Pastor Em. **Please keep our officers and team members in prayer as they serve us and our community.**



Blood Drive. A blood drive will be held at the fire department on Saturday, October 4 from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. To schedule an appointment, call Bob Callan at 893-3754.

Flu Shots. Licking County Health Department flu shots are available at the Croton Church of Christ on Friday, October 24 from 11:15 a.m – 11:45 a.m.

Northridge Operating Levy.

Northridge is beginning its campaign for an operating levy to be placed on the ballot in November. The Northridge School District has a website you can look at with information on the levy. (<http://northridgeschooldistrictlevy-page.com/1.html>). If approved, the levy will provide \$750,000 in funds to be used immediately for the operating budget of the school district. We will try to keep the congregation informed of any information the school district or the levy committee makes available, or any upcoming public forums, so that you have an opportunity to make informed choices about the future of our school district.



you are able, and will provide a list of most-needed food. Thank you for remembering those in need.



Youth and Children FTC Mystery Trips.

Our next Full Throttle for Change mystery trip will be on Sunday, October 5, time to be announced. We can't tell you anything about it, but we can promise that each mystery trip will be very different! Invite your friends!

SonCatcher's Bible School.

SonCatchers will be meeting once each month (Usually the 3rd Saturday from 1—3 P.M. starting Oct. 18th) during the school year for a fun Bible School adventure.

Fall Fun Day. Our all-church event for October will be a Fall Fun Day on Sunday, October 26 at 5 p.m. Enjoy a light meal, fall activities for all ages, a sing-a-long, and many other activities—and be sure to come dressed as your favorite Bible character or Bible verse. (We had so many creative ideas last year that we just had to bring that one back this year!)



and Conference News

District and Conference News

Food Drive. The Conference Office has requested we hold a food drive through October 5 to benefit a local food pantry, due to the spoilage experienced by many pantries and also by community people during the recent power outages. We ask you donate as

Worship Team

October promises to be a very special month. We will be observing World Wide Communion Sunday on Oct. 5th and Harvest Festival on Oct. 12th. We are so

pleased that Roy Mc Kinley will be able to share his musical talent with us on the 12th.

The Audio-Visual Project is progressing. We have a local Specialist who will be doing the necessary re-wiring and moving the cables and equipment to the back of the sanctuary. We have been observing how other churches have constructed their control desks and have found some good models for our own use. Thanks to some generous donators, we do have the funds to move ahead with the first phase of this project. We can hardly wait to get started.

Sunday School News

We celebrated Promotion Sunday on Sept. 7th. Now is a good time to consider attending Sunday School (no lunch boxes required). We offer classes for everyone. Mariellen Smith is teaching our Pre-Schoolers. Judy Baker teaches the Elementary Class [K—6th grades]. Susan Grube teaches the Youth Class [7th—12th grades]. There are two adult classes taught by Donna Spearman and Fred Grube. All classes run from 10 A.M. to 10:45 A.M. each Sunday. Join us for fun, conversation, and Christian growth in the Bible.

**Congratulations
Brent Spearman**



has graduated from Grant Medical Center’s program for Paramedic Certification. We, along with his family, are proud of his accomplishments.

Thanks to **Neil Shoemaker** for all his work on replacing the old windows in the Sunday School section of our building. He has replaced 20+ windows and the new ones look wonderful and will add in our efforts to cut costs from fuel expenses.

Angel Food Ministries

Thanks to the dedicated efforts of our site manager, Debbie Retherford, along with numerous volunteers, we continue to offer quality food for families in our church and community at discount prices. A basic box costs \$30 and contains about \$60 worth of food. Anyone can order without regard to income level. We can all benefit from this program.

We were able to share information about this new ministry at the District Community Ministries Fair that Pastor Em, John Palmer and Judy Baker recently attended. Good things are happening.

Croton UMC Recipient of Cash Awards

I'm pleased to announce that we have received two grants from Community Ministries for two projects in 2009. The first is a \$3,000.00 capital improvement grant to replace our final, aging furnace. The second is a \$1,000.00 grant for our second annual Full Throttle Rock Rush concert to be held this coming April.

Community Ministries is funded through apportionments. It is a support organization that represents a joint effort of Capital Area North and South Districts of the West Ohio Conference. This organization helps churches in the two Columbus-area districts to identify mission and ministry opportunities in local communities. It also provides workshops, grants, and many other services to help others.

Pastor Em



With all the political and social turmoil going on these days, it's almost easy to forget all the benefits we enjoy as citizens of this great Nation. However, we must not allow confusion, frustration, and anger to control our emotions, deflate our national pride, or deter our Christian hope.

To this end, allow me to share the wisdom of Cardinal James Gibbons with you: "I have lived eighty-six years. I have watched men climb up to success, hundred of them, and of all the elements that are important for success, the most important is faith. No great thing comes to anyone unless he or she has courage."

—Submitted by Wes Baker

**CROTON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
CHURCH OFFICERS AND TEAM LEADERS – 2009**

CHURCH OFFICERS REQUIRED BY THE 2004 BOOK OF DISCIPLINE:

Church Council Chairperson: Susan Grube

Church Lay Leader: Jean Gilmore

Staff-Parish Relations Chairperson: Joy Young

Finance Chairperson: Fred Grube

Trustee Chairperson: To be determined by Trustees January 2009

Church Treasurer: Barb McDavid

Lay Member of Annual Conference:

Financial Secretary: Jim Stansbury

Trustee Vice-Chairperson: To be determined by Trustees January 2009

Trustee Secretary/Treasurer: To be determined by Trustees January 2009

Alternate Lay Member of Annual Conference: Judy Baker

Church Council/Charge Conference Recording Secretary: Judy Baker

Lay Leadership Team Chairperson: Pastor Eva Marie Wolfe

OTHER OFFICERS AND TEAM LEADERS:

U.M.W. President: To be determined by UMW in Fall 2008

Volunteers in Mission Coordinator: Neil Shoemaker

Church Historian: Nancy Wells, Jeff Wolfe (pictures)

Church School Superintendent: Joy Young

Membership Secretary: Barb McDavid

Camping Coordinator: Jeff Wolfe

Shepherding Team Chairperson: Dorotha Stansbury

Worship Team Chairperson: Judy Baker

Mission and Outreach Team Chairperson: Carol Remley

Church Growth Team Chairperson: Cheri Pokorny

Youth/Children Leaders: Eva Marie Wolfe, Joy Young, Judy Baker, John Palmer

Scouting Coordinator: Eva Marie Wolfe

CHURCH TEAM MEMBERS - 2009

Staff-Parish Relations Team (5 to 9 members required)

Chairperson: Joy Young

Lay Leader: Jean Gilmore

Lay Member of Annual Conference:

Young Adult Member: Stephanie Ross

Class of 2009

Class of 2010

Class of 2011

Joy Young

Stephanie Ross

Jean Gilmore

Jim Stansbury

Trustees Team (3 to 9 members required)

Chairperson: To be determined by Trustees January 2009

Vice-Chairperson: To be determined by Trustees January 2009

Secretary/Treasurer: To be determined by Trustees January 2009

Class of 2009

Class of 2010

Class of 2011

Jesse Van Fossen

Zach Ross

John Palmer

Lay Leadership Team

Chairperson: Pastor Eva Marie Wolfe

Class of 2009

Class of 2010

Class of 2011

Fred Grube

Joy Young

Carol Remley

Nancy Wells

Judy Baker

Stephanie Ross

Shepherding Team

Chairperson: Dorotha Stansbury

Mary Shoemaker

Elnora Roberts

Debbie Meade

Barb McDavid

Donna Spearman

Frances Rhinehart

Finance Team

Chairperson: Fred Grube

Treasurer: Barb McDavid

Trustee Representative: Trustee Secretary/Treasurer

Financial Secretary: Jim Stansbury

Lay Leader: Jean Gilmore

Lay Member of Annual Conference: Carol Remley

Alternate Lay Delegate: Judy Baker

Pastor: Eva Marie Wolfe

Chairperson of Administrative Council: Susan Grube

SPR Committee Representative: Joy Young

Education Team

Chairperson: Joy Young

Sunday School Secretary: Ray Roberts

Pastor: Eva Marie Wolfe

Member-at-large: Debbie Meade

All Sunday School Teachers

Worship Team

Chairperson: Judy Baker

Choir Director: Cheri Pokorny

Bell Choir Director: Charles West

Pastor: Eva Marie Wolfe

A/V team: Wes Baker, Jeff Wolfe

Members-at-Large:

Dorotha Stansbury Barbara McDavid Lynn Van Fossen Joy Young

Mission and Outreach Team

Chairperson: Carol Remley

Angel Food Ministry Host Site Director: Deb Retherford

Members-at-Large:

Elnora Roberts Judy Baker Mariellen Smith Barb McDavid

Harvest Festival Team

Doris Willison Lynn Van Fossen Judy Baker

Church Growth Team

Chairperson: Cheri Pokorny

Fred Grube Joy Young Judy Baker

Charlotte Van Fossen Jean Gilmore Eva Marie Wolfe

Charles West Charles West

Communications Team

Newsletter: Wes Baker (editor), Judy Baker, Mariellen Smith

Bulletins: Dorotha Stansbury

Press Releases/Newspaper articles:

Calendar: Debbie Meade

Youth/Children's Team

Eva Marie Wolfe
Palmer

Judy Baker

Joy Young

John

SACC Board Representatives

Chairperson: Eva Marie Wolfe

Treasurer: Dorotha Stansbury

Member-at-large: Joy Young

Lay Speakers

Charles West (certified)

Cheri Pokorny (non-certified)

**The Croton United Methodist Church
Post Office Box #127
75 North High Street
Croton, OH 43013**

Return Service Requested