

August/September 2011

THE CIRCUIT RIDER



Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.
First United Methodist Church, Lancaster, Ohio

Creative Ministries are preparing two special shows to entertain and inspire you in August and September!



The Magic of Believe

God's love is no illusion!

Saturday, August 20

6:00 p.m.

Crossroads

2095 W. Fair Ave. Lancaster

\$5 suggested donation
at the door

Good News Clown Crew

Sunday, September 18

4:30 p.m.

Crossroads

2095 W. Fair Ave. Lancaster

\$2 suggested donation
at the door



Births

Logan David Hillyard, born June 3, 2011
Son of Justin & Kim Hillyard
Great-Grandson of Clarice Foglesong

Leland Edward Todd, born June 9, 2011
Son of Phillip Todd & Heather Mueller
Grandson of Marsha Todd

Deaths

We express our sincere sympathy
to the families of those
who have lost loved ones:

Jim Shaner
Todd Matthew Johnston
Marjorie Buchanan
Glen Durst
Reba Snyder
Rolland Mambourg
Clarence Miller
Charles Coey

Baptism

June 12, 2011
Abby Lynn Marion
Daughter of Mitchell Marion & Ida McCoy

Interfaith Prayer Vigil for Homicide Victims - August 24

The Columbus Interfaith Clergy Council will host the monthly interfaith prayer vigil for homicide victims and survivors on Wednesday, August 24, at 12:00 p.m. on the corner of E. Broad St. and Third St. (across from the Statehouse) downtown Columbus.

Attendees will pray for victims and survivors of homicides from the month of July 2011. All are welcome to attend this 20-minute vigil.

**ARTICLES FOR THE
OCTOBER ISSUE OF THE
CIRCUIT RIDER ARE DUE
BY SEPTEMBER 15!**

August & September Worship Themes

August Lectionary Sermon Series "The Life of Joseph from the Old Testament"

- August 7 – "Joseph: Part I"
- August 14 – "Joseph: Part II"

August/September Lectionary Sermon Series "In Your Wildest Dreams"

- August 28 – "Your Burning Bush"
- September 4 – "Your Passover"
- September 11 – "Your Red Sea"
- September 18 – "Your Wilderness"

September/October Sermon Series (September 25 to October 30) "Transformed Living"



Faith Forward
CROSSROADS
to the Finish Line!

Crossroads "Faith Forward to the Finish Line" Update

Thanks to your participation in the first lap of our fund drive, ministries like our recent July Vacation Bible School held at our Crossroads facility help us to share God's love with families in our community. Approximately 150 children joined "Boomer" the Panda for a week of games, snacks, recreation, bible time, skits, and singing.

Thank you for your generous support of the first lap (year) of our 3rd and final Crossroads five-year fund drive! As of the end of July, we have received 226 pledges totaling \$212,464.

If you haven't already made a financial commitment and would like to help us get closer to the finish line of paying off our Crossroads mortgage, contact our Treasurer, Deb Silvia at debsilvia@lancasterfumc.org.

Pastor's Letter

Dear Friends,

At the beginning of a clergy meeting, a pastor asked the twenty people around the tables to share their names. She knew some of us but wisely wanted to get to know the others as well. When it was finally my turn and before I could even speak, this pastor said, "Sure, I know Robert."

Now keep in mind that this was the very first time we had met in person and yet she still could say that she knew me. How? For the past year we have been facebook friends. My facebook profile has my picture, my hobbies, my favorite books and movies, and updates on the happenings in my life.

Isn't it strange that in our social networking world, we can feel like we know someone even without face to face conversations? To a degree, it's true. Thanks to facebook, I can keep in touch with many people. The reason facebook and other social networking sites are popular is because the forming of relationships is a basic part of what it means to be truly human.

One of the ways that the church helps us to deepen our relationships with each other is through small groups, bible studies, and other classes. As we prepare for the fall church schedule, consider joining one of these groups.

May God enrich all of your relationships.

Pastor Robert



*Keep Up with First UMC
Updates on Facebook!*

Regular updates on upcoming events and news regarding our church are available on our church's facebook page. On facebook, go to Lancaster First United Methodist Church.

*Join us for a fun evening of food and entertainment
as Crossroads presents*

"You're Still Mine, Patsy Cline" Dinner Theater
Saturday, September 10

You'll fall to pieces as you relive the life and music of Country and Pop singer Patsy Cline as performed by Grammy nominated singer-songwriter, Celeste Friedman. Friedman's own haunting, bluesy voice heralds the smooth and lilting sounds of Patsy Cline that we will never forget.

Dinner starts at 6 p.m. so you won't be walkin' after midnight.

The menu includes:

Tossed Salad, Dinner Rolls, Chicken Cordon Bleu,
Buffet Potatoes, Seasoned Green Beans,
and a dessert that will give you sweet dreams!

Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$8 for kids 12 & under.

You would be crazy to miss this one-woman show!



Children's Fall Sunday School Classes

Begins September 11

8:15 a.m.

Nursery (under age 2)	Room 12 left side
Preschool (ages 2 & 3)	Room 12 right side
Pre-K & K (ages 4 - kindergarten)	Room 11
Elementary (Grades 1-6)	Fellowship Hall

9:45 a.m.

Nursery (under age 2)	Room 12 left side
Preschool (ages 2 & 3)	Room 12 right side
Pre-K & K (ages 4 - kindergarten)	Room 11
Younger Elementary (Grades 1-3)	Fellowship Hall Celebration Room
Older Elementary (Grades 4-6)	Fellowship Hall Castle Room

11:00 a.m.

Nursery (under age 2)	Room 12 left side
Preschool (ages 2 & 3)	Room 12 right side
Pre-K & K (ages 4 - kindergarten)	Room 11
Elementary (Grades 1-6)	Fellowship Hall - Sunday Shop



New Sunday Morning Grouping for Children

This year, the 9:45 a.m. elementary class will be divided into Younger and Older Elementary. Children grades 1-3 will meet in Fellowship Hall's Celebration Room, while grades 4-6 will remain in the Castle Room.



Sunday Shop has openings for people who enjoy performing simple skits. Contact John Coen, Carolyn Greene, or Pam George if you would like a role!

Family Worship on September 4 - Nursery and Combined Preschool and Kindergarten classes will meet. Elementary children will worship with their families.

Adult Learning Opportunities for Fall

Sunday Morning Opportunities - Fall schedule begins, September 11

Adult Bible Class – This bible-based class meets at 9:45 a.m. in Room 26. The class chooses their studies based on the interests of the group.

Faith Matters Class – This class, taught by Rev. Cheryl Foulk, discusses a variety of topics throughout the year. Subject matter varies from bible studies which include biblical people and themes from the scriptures, as well as faith topics relevant for daily living. The class meets at 9:45 a.m. in Room 22.

Ark Builders – Discusses a wide variety of topics including books such as *How Much is Enough?*, *Three Simple Rules* and a number of books by popular United Methodist pastor and author James Moore, as well as New Testament scholar, N.T. Wright. The class determines their own studies based on common interest and encourages lively discussion. The class meets at 11:00 a.m. in Room 22.

Weekday Opportunities

Monday

Sisters II & III – These faith-based groups are designed to help women develop Christian friendships while supporting and encouraging one another in their growth and study. These groups begin new studies every several months and are open to any woman who can attend for one hour. Sisters III meets at 2:00 p.m. in Room 26. See separate article in this issue of the Circuit Rider for their next study. Sisters II meets at 6:30 p.m. at the church.

Wednesday

Mid-Week Bible Study – This adult bible study meets each Wednesday from 4:00 – 5:00 p.m. at Crossroads. The study is facilitated by Pastor Robert McDowell. The preaching text for the upcoming Sunday is discussed. The format welcomes questions and shared discussion. The study begins Wednesday, September 14.

Young Spirits – This group of 20-40 year olds meets for bible discussion and social gatherings on Wednesday evenings from September to May. Leader is Kacy Snyder. Socially, on the last Wednesday of the month, they meet for dinner, bowling, cookouts, bonfires, game nights, and whatever else sounds fun for the group. Young Spirits begins on Wednesday, September 14 at 6:30 p.m. at Crossroads. Child care is available.

A New season for our church music groups is about to begin

There are many special things planned for this year, and the beginning of a new season is a great time to become a part of the music at First UMC.



The Chancel Choir will have a special kick-off first rehearsal on Sunday afternoon, August 28, at 4:00 p.m. in the choir room at the main building. We'll get our voices in working order again and then get a jump on the new season's music. The first regular rehearsal will then happen on Thursday, Sept. 8, at 7:30 p.m., and first Sunday in the loft will be Sept. 11. New singers, high school age and up, are always welcome.

The church's bell choir, the Hi-Lo Ringers, will have their initial practice of the season on Thursday, Sept. 15, at 6:30 p.m. downstairs in the bell choir room. We are anticipating a couple of bell choir vacancies this year, so we really need some new ringers!

Fellowship Dinners

Fellowship Dinners begin on **Wednesday, September 14**, at Crossroads. The dinners are buffet style and they start at 5:00 p.m. and run until 6:30 p.m. Come join us for an evening of fellowship and good food.

We also need volunteers to help prepare the food on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons and to help serve and clean up on Wednesday afternoon. Tuesday shifts are from 1 – 3 or 3:30 p.m. and Wednesday shifts are from 1 – 4 p.m. for food preparation and from 4:45 p.m. until we are done for serving and washing dishes and clean up. Some people choose to work every week, some work every other week and some work once a month. It is up to you. If interested in helping us please call Peg Parker at 653-3330 or 654-2100.

Buffet will be open 5:00-6:30 p.m.
in the Main Room at Crossroads.

Reservations are requested by noon
on the Monday before each meal.
Check bulletin or information wall in the
parlor for reservation forms
or call the church to reserve your spot.

Suggested Donation:

Adult — \$7.00

Child (under 12) — \$3.50

Child (under 3) — Free

Need transportation?

Tell us when you make your reservation!

Menus

September 14

Chicken & Noodles
Mashed Potatoes/Gravy
California Vegetables
Fresh Garden Salad
Fruited Cabbage Salad
Ice Cream Sundae

Kids:

Pizza Burger
Tossed Salad
Cookie

September 21

Ham Loaf w/Sweet & Sour Sauce
Baked Potato
Green Beans
Fresh Garden Salad
Waldorf Apple Salad
Texas Cake

Kids:

Corn Dog, Assorted Chips
Fresh Veggies
Pudding in a Cup

September 28

Roast Beef
Mashed Potatoes/Gravy
Glazed Carrots
Fresh Garden Salad
Savory Bean Salad
Blue Gelatin Poke Cake

Kids:

BBQ Beef Sandwich
Green Beans, Tater Tots
Brownie



Special Program following dinner on September 14

The United Methodist Women invite everyone to remain after dinner on September 14 and listen to guest speaker, Rev. Fred Shaw, a living history educator. He will transport us back in time through the mysterious power of stories to better understand a vibrant culture still among us. Rev. Shaw is an internationally acclaimed storyteller, a "truth teller" of the Shawnee. He has been sharing the stories of his people since 1971. The stories are an oral tradition handed down from one generation to the next for centuries and include history, music, humor, cultural perspectives, words as art and ecology. Rev. Shaw is very entertaining and we are blessed to be able to offer this wonderful program to the community and our church.

UMW News Corner



It seems that several United Methodist Women had a trial run of the special **Apple Dumpling Fundraiser** over the summer and found it to be quite a success. The dumplings sold for a suggested donation of \$8 for a 4-pack and will stay at that price beginning in mid-September through mid-October. Please stop by our UMW Table in the Parlor during those Sundays to buy YOUR dumplings. Sorry, we won't be able to take orders.

UMW Vice President Becky Clark and Hubby Joe recently attended the **West Ohio Cooperative School of Christian Mission** held at Ohio Northern University July 18 - 21. Some of the activities included exciting mission studies, great music, passionate worship, enrichments, fellowship, interaction with persons in mission, crafts, movies, mission projects and a chance to be with friends of all ages. A bible study focusing on a book entitled "The Journey, Forgiveness, Restorative Justice and Reconciliation" was attended by all participants. Joe also enjoyed a class entitled "Joy to the World: Mission in the Age of Global Christianity" taught by Bishop Ough and Becky attended the class on "Haiti, an Overview" learning about the culture that shaped Haiti's past and the ongoing legacy of colonialism as well as learning about the heart and soul of Haiti's people. It was a wonderful week. The School collected Birthing Kits for the people of Haiti and 36 Birthing Kits were donated from FUMC. There were over 150 in attendance at the school and 20 youth in attendance.



On **Wednesday, September 14**, the UMW will hold their monthly meeting at **Crossroads at 5:00 p.m.** in conjunction with the Fellowship Dinner of the church. This will not be the usual Carry-In Supper, but our ladies will have a reserved area. A special program open to all in the community and church will immediately follow the Fellowship Dinner with a special speaker, **Rev. Fred Shaw**, a member of the Shawnee tribe and a UMC pastor. He will be presenting an educational and entertaining program for all ages. (See page 6 for more information.)

Rev. Shaw, a dedicated storyteller and educator tells the stories of the Shawnee people, which have carried him from sea to sea and into Europe. Don't miss this special presentation! A love offering will be taken to cover Rev. Shaw's expenses. Come and enjoy the Fellowship Dinner and this special presentation.

Another event at Crossroads will be a repeat of the last year's successful **Spook-ghetti Dinner** to be **Saturday, October 8**. Please put all these activities on your calendars.

Natalie Hill, Communications

September is a great time to join a UMW Circle

Elizabeth Circle – Meets the third Thursday (September – May) at 9:30 a.m. at the Rising House. Contact Wanda Shaeffer (653-6804) for more information.

Esther Circle – Meets the second Thursday (September – May) at 1:00 p.m. at the Rising House. Contact Natalie Hill (653-3835) for more information.

Rebecca Circle – Meets the first Thursday (September – May) at 1:30 p.m. at the Rising House. Contact Marty Lambert (681-9286)

Trinity Circle – Meets the fourth Tuesday (September-December & March-May) at 7:00 p.m. at a restaurant in the evenings. For more information contact Marilyn Jepsen (614-837-7313) or Donna Lawrence (569-9118).

CARING MINISTRIES



Want to help with a Fundraiser for Crossroads? We need help on Friday, September 9 and Saturday, Sept. 10, for the Patsy Cline Dinner Theatre. If you would like to help us please call the church receptionist or stop by the receptionist's desk and there will be a sign up sheet with jobs and times available. Thanks for helping make this project a success.

Is your garden still producing? If you have any extra that you would like to share with First Community Kitchen, just bring it in to the kitchen preferably on Monday, Tuesday or Thursday morning. If you cannot come on those mornings stop at the receptionist's desk and the receptionist will see that it gets to the kitchen. Thanks so much for sharing!!!!!!



Sharing Hearts is still looking for people to visit nursing homes and/or our homebound. If you have some time and would like to help do this, please call Susie Griset (681-1708), Loretta Dozer (687-0661) and they will help you find a place or someone to visit. This is such an important ministry. We do not want our shut-ins to feel that we have forgotten them.

Memorial Gifts

Our congregation regularly receives memorial gifts, lovingly given by family and friends, who have lost loved ones to death. For information about contributing to our Memorial Fund, please contact our church business office at 653-3330. Gifts received since our last edition of the Circuit Rider:

In memory of Marjorie Buchanan

Mary Jane Clark
Ray & Debby Baskin
Peg Smith
Joyce Reef
Mary Widener
Don & Betty Kissling
Norma Bagby
Sherry Lacey
Judy Kauffman
Helen Campbell
Margaret Sims Coons
Cathy Hargrove
Anne Posey
Becky Kelley
Jo Ann Bainter
Opal Wacker
Larry & Betty Neel
Jeannette Longnecker
Harold Fultz
Dr. & Mrs. Jon Detwiler
Ron & Debbie Bird
David & Deb Smith
Jim Daubenmire
Bill & Bev Duerson
Pearleene Reffitt

Howard & Dorothy Nicholson
Mary Cann
Richard & Jeannine Huddle
Marguerite Gamble
Susan Sims
Richard Simons
David & Joyce Jones
Larry & Cinda Chapman

In memory of Mildred Keller

Patricia Ferguson
Wayne & Christy Custer
Bruce & Nancy McAtee
Harry & Debra Bier
J & J Bryant
Dennis & Barbara Shaw
Alice Dial
Ray & Debby Baskin
Jim Daubenmire
Dorothy Wright
Betty Wallace
Peter & Carolyn Roane
Helen Campbell
Mary Jane Bohlander
Nancy Smith
Don & Betty Kissling

Jo Ann Bainter
Max & Betty Wright
Milton Taylor, Sr.
Martin Taylor & Milton Taylor, Jr.
Sara Hackney
Karen Lerch
Bill & Jeannine Cunningham
Robert & Marjorie Buchanan
Opal Wacker
Jim & Sarah Miller
Steve & Bernadine Dupler
Mike & Cindy Newman
Tim & Bev Voris
Robert & Cheryl Shaner
David & Carola Neeley
Norma Oatney
David & Joyce Jones
Mike & Linda Flick
Ben & Lois Porter
Joe & Laura Hoch
Norma Bagby
Harold & Katherine Siler
Larry & Carolyn Kemmerer
Joe & Becky Clark
Betty Youst

Men's Breakfast

The United Methodist Men's breakfast will begin meeting again in the fall. The first one will be held on September 10. The breakfast will be held at 8:00 a.m. in the Rising House. Cost is \$5.00. Following breakfast, the men will meet for fellowship and prayer.

For reservations, call the church office (653-3330) by September 8.

Let the church know if you want to be on the standing reservation list.

Come and bring a friend!



The Works — Artisans Expo

FUMC hosts first annual Craft Show at Crossroads, 2750 W. Fair Ave., Lancaster, on September 24 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The space is over half full now so sign up for a vendor space NOW. Members of the Lancaster community are welcome to participate as vendors. There is a \$25 vendor entrance fee for each 10' X 10' space. Applications are available at www.crossroadsevents.com or through the church office. Proceeds will support the Crossroads mortgage reduction campaign. Contact Lisa Williams (740-277-3650) for more information.



Cokesbury Booktable

The selection of books listed below is available from our booktable ministry. Located in the parlor, these books and many others are sold each Sunday morning between the worship services. The booktable ministry also receives requests for special orders.

Catherine's Gift, by John Little. The New York Times says, "Dr. Catherine Hamlin is the new Mother Teresa of our age." Since 1959 Dr. Catherine Hamlin has lived and worked in Ethiopia. With her husband Reg, she pioneered surgery for the condition called 'fistula' — an injury incurred during obstructed labor, resulting in uncontrollable incontinence. Fistula sufferers are outcasts from society. The techniques the Hamlins developed have allowed tens of thousands to return to normal life. *Catherine's Gift* takes us inside Dr. Hamlin's remarkable world, following the fate of some of the women who come to her in the hope of a cure. \$14.99

The Wide Open Spaces of God, by Beth Booram. In this inspiring book, Beth Booram helps us to identify the landscapes of our lives—periods when our spiritual surroundings shift, and we find ourselves relating to God and the world in a different way. Each chapter contains a description of the landscape, an overview of the biblical story, life skills we develop, and personal stories from others who have traveled there. \$12

A Field Guide to God—A Seeker's Manual, by Patty Kirk. We are born expecting not only food and protection from the elements, but comfort and love: to be held, touched, even spoken to, however meaninglessly at first. That expectation of love, Kirk argues, is the source of our longing for God. We seek God later in life because our battered bodies and spirits remember—if only dimly, in a past obscured by lesser consolations and perhaps considerable unpleasantness—what it was like to be fully encompassed by a dependable source of sustenance, protection, and love. When we recognize God's presence in our lives—we are grasping at that remote memory of true happiness. *A Field Guide to God* is a pleasure to read. \$21.99

100 Ways to Know God Loves Me!, by Stephen Elkins. Read it! Sing it! Learn it! This book contains two CDs with 100 songs to love God back. This delightful book will show unique ways God shows love to all of his children—from Bible times to today. \$19.99



Dear Pastor Robert & Sharon Hachtel,

Thank you for visiting me at the hospital during my stay for knee surgery. Your prayers, thoughts and concerns really helped me. Again, many thanks.

Sincerely, Gert Young

Dear Friends,

Thank you for all your cards, visits and prayers while I vacationed (ha) at the hospital. The card was so great that all the people signed. Special thanks to Pastor Cheryl.

Sincerely and God bless all, Nadine Hampson

Dear FUMC,

Thank you so much for the visits to the hospital while Harold was a patient. He is now home and is doing very well.

Shirley Solt

Dear Church Family,

We greatly appreciate all the cards, visits with special treats and prayers for Jim during his illness. Thank you to Pastor McDowell for the beautiful service, the Rose Ministry for the special rose sent to the funeral home and to the Family Concern Ministry for the delicious meal provided after the funeral. May God continue to bless each and every one!

Judy, Mike & Wanda Shaner & the Shaner Family

Dear FUMC,

I am so blessed to be a member of this congregation. I want to thank every one for the concerns, visits, cards, Pastor Cheryl's visit to Reflections, the card from the Bible Study Group, the gift of cookies and fruit from Second Saturday and so much more. It was amazing and made the weeks I couldn't get out so much better. Thank you and God bless,

Helen Campbell

Dear Friends at FUMC,

The Arthritis Foundation of Central Ohio, Fairfield County Branch, would like to express our sincere gratitude to you for supporting the Twilight Run 2011. All of the funds raised stays in Fairfield County to support our exercise scholarships and assistance programs. One of the things that make Fairfield County such a great place to live and raise a family is community minded organizations like yours. We could not have done this event with out you, so again thank you.

Sincerely yours, Jan Zerovnik, Director

Dear FUMC,

Thank you so very much for your monetary donation to AC Special Olympics. We really appreciate your thoughtfulness. The "Coins for Christ" program sounds wonderful! God bless all of you!

Thanks again, AC Special Olympics Committee

Dear FUMC,

Thank you for donating!

Lutheran Social Services

*The church acknowledges the receipt of thank you notes for scholarships awarded to **Lauren Baker, Allie Barnhart, Andrew Garrett, Eric Horton, Maria Horton, Cheyenne Jepsen, Samantha Slater, Kayla Smith & Garrett Warner.** See their notes on the bulletin board in the church parlor.*

England Wesleyan Heritage Pilgrimage Update

The church trip to England to visit the sites of John Wesley and the early Methodists has been postponed to July, 2013. This is due to the Olympics being held in London in 2012.

Pastor Robert and Penny will begin organizing the July, 2013 trip as early as next spring. Watch for more details!



Getting Ready for Our Bicentennial Year (2012)

Our Bicentennial Committee has been busy planning for our birthday celebration next year. The theme is "Echoes of the Past, Ringing in the Future." Mark your calendar for our celebration events in 2012!

- April 22 (Main Building) – Bell Monument Dedication & Meal
- May 20 (Main Building) – Founder's Day
- June 17, 5:00 p.m. (Crossroads) – Methodist Tent Revival & Meal
- July – 4th of July Parade Bicentennial Float, Vacation Bible School Bicentennial Focus (Crossroads), & Lancaster Festival Art Walk (Main Building) – Stained Glass Windows
- August 12, 3 p.m. (Main Building) – Ice Cream Social
- September 23 (Main Building) – Music Sunday & Commissioning of Anthem
- October 21 (Main Building) – Homecoming Sunday

Step right up! The Halloween Carnival is coming!

A Halloween Carnival is in the making as a creative outreach to our community. This family-friendly event is an opportunity for people to celebrate the holiday in a safe environment as well as a chance for them to experience our Crossroads facility and learn about upcoming events they can participate in.

We will need lots of volunteers to make our carnival a success. Opportunities include:

- Construction of skill games (carpentry/painting)
- Construction of booths (carpentry/painting)
- Game operators (plan to have about 8 skill games)
- Concessions (food prep and sales)
- Inflatables attendants (oversee operation of bounce house, slide, etc.)
- Pumpkin painting/decorating station (oversee the crafting of pumpkins)
- Costumed Character (be a mascot)
- Trick-Or-Treat Trail (be a costumed character and distribute candy)
- Help with set up and/or clean up
- Ticket Booth- (disperse tickets)



Another way to contribute is through donations of small candies (individually wrapped) like tootsie rolls, etc. for prizes or through financial gifts toward the cost of prizes, food and games. Our goal is to have this event be free to the public as a gift from our church. To contribute money, please place it in an offering envelope marked "Halloween Carnival" and place in the offering plate on Sundays or drop off at the church through the week.

Please contact John Coen to volunteer your skills to this event by phone (740-653-3320 ext. 103) or email (johncoen@lancasterfumc.org). Thank You!

Good Works Friday Night Dinner

Are you looking for a meaningful way to serve others close to home? Come with us for a unique experience to Hannah House in Athens, Ohio, where we will be sharing a meal with those who have been or are being served by the Good Works Ministry in Athens, Ohio.

Good Works, Inc. is an outreach ministry to the poor in Southeast Ohio. We will be meeting at the church about 2:30 p.m. on September 16 to prepare the meal which consists of lasagna, salad, green beans, applesauce and rolls. At 4 p.m. we will leave to go to Athens and enjoy the meal with our friends. It is truly a blessing to be a part of this wonderful outreach ministry. Is God calling you?

For more information about Good Works, visit their website: www.good-works.net



The Circuit Rider
is the monthly newsletter of
First United Methodist Church
163 E. Wheeling St.
Lancaster, OH 43130

Sunday:

8:15 a.m. – Worship Celebration

9:45 a.m. – Praise Worship

11:00 a.m. – Worship Celebration

Wednesday:

6:30 p.m. – The Gathering (at Crossroads)

We welcome you to worship with us and to experience the joy of having fellowship with other people who believe in the love of God and the teachings of Christ.

Senior Pastor – Robert McDowell

Visitation Pastor – Cheryl Foulk

Telephone – 740-653-3330

FAX – 740-653-4983

Email – church@lancasterfumc.org

Website – www.lancasterfumc.org

Youth News

Confirmation Classes	Begin September 11. If you are entering 7th grade and haven't received a registration card, please call Sandra (740) 653-3320 ext 104.
Youth Group	Resumes meeting Sunday, September 11 @ 6 p.m. at Crossroads. Come dig deeper into your faith!
Youth Breakfast	Resumes Thursday, September 8, 6:30 a.m. at Rising House. Start your day off right with a delicious breakfast, laughter and a brief devotion! \$1
NEW!!! C.H.A.T.S	Our youth group is partnering with Crestview on the 3 rd Saturday of every month. We'll visit with the residents, playing Bingo & enjoying other activities together. Meet at Crossroads at 1:45 p.m. on September 17.

Opportunities to get Involved!

There are many rewarding ways to becoming involved
in the lives and activities of our youth !

Small group leaders: Each Sunday the youth gather at crossroads. We spend one hour exploring a faith topic. After a large group opening, we break into smaller groups for deeper discussions. We are in need of caring adults to facilitate these discussions. All materials and discussion starters are provided.

Confirmation leaders: Confirmation class meets every Sunday, beginning September 11, at 11 am in the Rising House. Adults are needed to help lead small group discussions. All materials provided! This is a wonderful, rewarding opportunity to come alongside our 7th graders as they explore their faith and consider the decision to confirm their faith. Experience is not necessary!

Confirmation mentors: We are always in need of loving adults to fill this very special role in the journey to confirmation. A mentor's role is to come along side the confirmand, to give support and fellowship for the journey. Having a mentor demonstrates to the confirmand that the community of faith is supporting them along the way. A mentor fills this role by maintaining contact throughout the year through email, text, phone calls or personal visits. Most importantly, the mentor prays for the student. **Mentoring does not require a huge time commitment, but does provide a lifelong impact.**

Chaperons: The youth group enjoys many activities throughout the year, and adult chaperons are always appreciated. **You do not have to be available for all events.** By letting us know you'd like to help, we can contact you as we plan events and check if you are available. Activities include lock ins, special events, retreats, mission trips, and confirmation retreats.

Prayer team: Today's youth face many challenges and crisis every day. We are looking for caring individuals to intentionally pray for our youth, our programs and efforts, and our confirmation class. You do not have to go anywhere special, simply pray

If any of the these ideas interests you, please contact Sandra Yerian
740-653-3320 ext 104,
or (cell) 614-580-2283,
sandrayerian@lancasterfumc.org

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR YOUNG PEOPLE!

Church Family Friendly Bowling League

The 2011-12 bowling season will begin soon at Tiki Bowling Lane on Tuesday evenings. The league is open to men and women. There are couples as well as singles. There are many openings for permanent bowlers and subs. If you enjoy bowling and having a great time (no matter what your average), please call the church and ask for Sandy Roberts or Jill Warner at 653-3330.



3RD SATURDAY



SQUARE DANCE

September 17

October 15

November 18

December 17

**at Crossroads, 7-10 p.m.
Featuring "Live" the Wayne King Band
with Wayne King as Caller**

Come out and join the fun! Experienced or inexperienced; young or old; couples or singles: All are welcome!

We will run through all dances before dancing so come on out and learn to Square Dance Eastern Style. Open to the public, so be sure to invite all your friends.

Suggested Donation: \$4.00 per person; Kids 10 & under: \$3.00. All tickets will be sold at the door. Doors open at 6:30 p.m.

For more information, contact:
Penny Greene (740-653-1165) or Sharon Aebersold (740-654-4454).

Spook-ghetti Dinner in October

United Methodist women are sponsoring a **Spook-ghetti Dinner** on Saturday evening, October 8, at Crossroads from 5:00-6:30 p.m. The suggested donation is \$7 for adults, \$4 for children (ages 3-12) and Free for children (age 2 and under). There will be a contest with prizes for those dressing in Halloween costumes.

Proceeds will go to UMW Global Missions. Call Chairperson Shelia Brown for information or tickets: 740-687-1645. Tickets are available at the church after September 1 on Sunday mornings, during business hours on weekdays, and at Fellowship Dinners on Wednesday evenings.



Emmaus Walk

The Walk to Emmaus is a spiritual renewal program intended to strengthen the local church through the development of Christian disciples and leaders. The program's approach seriously considers the model of Christ's servanthood and encourages Christ's disciples to act in ways appropriate to being "a servant of all."

**Women's Walk
Sept 29 – Oct 2**

**Men's Walk
November 3-6**



For more information contact:
Norma Bagby (689-1448) or Keith Kistler (654-5888).