

June/July/August 2011





THE CIRCUIT RIDER



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



Ready for a Wild Adventure?

New friends  Amazing crafts  Wild games 
Lip-smacking snacks  Wild Bible adventures  Incredible music

What: A week-long Bible School where kids discover that God is wild about them.

Where: Crossroads Ministry Center

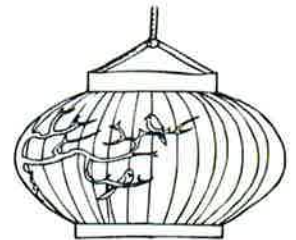
When: July 11-15, 2011, 6:00 – 8:30 p.m.
Registration continues online at lancasterfumc.org or at the VBS display in the Parlor.

Who: For children age 3 (completely potty-trained) through kids completing grade 4.

Cost: \$8 if registered by July 1; after deadline, \$10
T-shirts are \$8 if ordered by July 1. T-shirts are not available after the deadline.

TO VOLUNTEER:

Register at www.lancasterfumc.org
Adult volunteers must have completed a background check (social security number is required). Forms are located in the Parlor or can be printed from our website.



Visit the display in the church parlor for ideas on what you can donate or loan to us for VBS!

Birth

Robert Alan Cherryholmes
born May 18, 2011
Son of Carl & Jennifer Cherryholmes
Grandson of Don & Judy Willison

Baptisms

On May 1, 2011
Garrett Thomas Nixon
Son of Carlin & Amber Nixon

On May 29, 2011
Robert Taylor Huestis
Son of David & Emily Huesits

Deaths

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

Clark Brown
Lucille Christy
Brayden Tackett
Martha Woodyard Smith
Mildred Keller

Welcome New Members

Joining FUMC on May 8 as
2010-11 Confirmation Class

Kristen Appleton*	Alli Romans
Jordan Gilbert*	Izzy Ryan
McKenzie Huff	Gabby Smith*
Austin Kaiser	Morgan Smith
Aaron Lawson	Noah Steel
Brad Nameth	Jared Thomas
Annie O'Dell	Hannah Yerian

*baptized on 4/30/11

2011 High School Graduates

Mitchell Acton	Kelly Scott
Jake Augenstein	Samantha Slater
Kyle Burgess	Erica Smith
Kaitlyn Burnside	Mackenzie Smith
Kyle Graf	Jessica Voto
Melissa Hayden	Garrett Warner
Maria Horton	Lauren Weinberg
Cheyenne Jepsen	Sam Young
Justin McCartney	

June & July Worship Themes

Sermon Series:

The Book of Psalms – “Expressions of the Heart”
June 19 – “Psalms of Lament”
June 26 – “Psalms of Ascent”
July 3 – “Psalms of Enthronement”

Sermon Series:

The Book of Romans – “The Greatest Letter Ever Written”
July 10 – “God’s Justice Revealed in Christ”
July 17 – “God’s New Exodus in Christ”
July 24 – “God’s Faithfulness to Israel”
July 31 – “God’s People in God’s World”

Next New Member Class – Summer 2011

Our summer new member classes/lunches will be held
Sundays, 12:30 – 2:30 p.m. July 31, August 7, & 14 and
the receiving into membership will be on Sunday, August 21.
To register, contact Sandy Roberts at 740-653-3330 or
sandyroberts@lancasterfumc.org.

New Address for Pastor Cheryl

Summer is known as the season of pastoral moves in the
West Ohio Conference. Rev. Ben Foulk, spouse of Cheryl,
is being appointed to Marne UMC which is east of Newark.
The Foulk family will be moving to Marne at the end of
June. Cheryl will continue her part-time appointment as
Visitation pastor at Lancaster First UMC. Their new home
address will be 12335 Marne Rd., Newark, OH 43055.

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.

**ARTICLES FOR THE
AUGUST/SEPTEMBER ISSUE
OF THE CIRCUIT RIDER
ARE DUE BY JULY 29!**

Thank You, Virginia!

Although hidden by the walls of the choir loft, Virginia Rosberg has blessed our congregation and our community for TWENTY-FIVE years and will retire at the end of June 2011 to spend time with her husband, Glen, and son, Andrew. Virginia served not only as organist but also as accompanist for the choirs; coordinator for music for weddings, funerals and other special events; artist for recorded music, as well as service on various church and community committees throughout her tenure.

Please join the choirs and the Staff-Parish Relations Committee in honoring Virginia for her many years of service to and with our congregation to glorify God. There will be an opportunity to shower her with cards and a love offering at the Open House celebration on Sunday, June 26, 2-4 p.m. at the Rising House. Don't miss this chance, and opportunities until June 26, to say THANK YOU, VIRGINIA!!

Music CD available soon



With my time as organist here at First Church coming to a close, I wanted to play some special pieces for you that I play throughout the year. That desire has turned into a CD entitled "Seasons". Beginning with Advent and concluding with Christ the King, I have included something for each season in the church calendar. There's nothing new here, it's what you would hear on any given Sunday, but it's comfortable like an old shoe. The CDs will be available soon and we are asking for a \$10 donation to cover the cost of the CD. Any money collected over that will benefit the Music Ministries of the church.

My thanks to Ben Hill of Over the Hill Productions for recording the CD, to Trisha Clifford-Sprouse for help in cover and CD design, and to Clarence McCoy for his knowledge and immeasurable help in all the little details. And of course my sincere thanks to you, the congregation of First United Methodist Church, for your love and support for these past 25 years as I have been privileged to serve with you in ministry.

God Bless You All, Virginia Rosberg

Welcoming our new organist

When Virginia Rosberg told us her plans to retire this year after serving as our organist so faithfully for the last 25 years, we knew we had big shoes to fill. The Staff-Parish Relations Committee established a sub-committee to conduct a search, and after a several month process, we have found a wonderful new musician to become our organist beginning in July.

Michael Snyder currently works as the Assistant Choral Director at Hilliard Darby High School and Choral Director at Heritage Middle School. Previously, he was the Director of Choral Activities at Whitehall-Yearling High School. He has held Director of Music and Organist positions at Zion Lutheran Church in Wooster, David Lutheran Church in Canal Winchester, and Bexley United Methodist Church. Michael studied Piano Performance at Kent State University, received a Bachelor in Music – Organ Performance degree from the University of Akron, received his education certificate from The Ohio State University, and has completed work toward a Master of Music Education Degree at VanderCook College of Music. He lives in Canal Winchester with his wife, Angela, and their daughter, Bailey.



Michael will look familiar to many of us, since he has been our substitute organist several times this spring. Each time he has done a fantastic job providing our worship music and we eagerly look forward to the music ministry he will share with us in the future.

New Crossroads Fund Drive Begins
Lap 1 (June 2011 – May 2012)



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 May, we have received 218 pledges totaling \$208,254.

We are well on our way in fulfilling the Apostle Paul's challenge in II Corinthians 8:11 – "Now finish doing it, so that your eagerness may be matched by completing it according to your means." If you haven't already made a financial commitment to the first lap, commitment cards are available at the church.

Our beautiful Crossroads facility, 2095 W. Fair Avenue, offers bible studies, worship services, Second Saturday outreach, Creative Ministries, Wednesday Fellowship Dinners, emergency shelter for displaced families, Vacation Bible School, community organization and United Methodist district and conference events, funerals, wedding receptions, concerts, Easter egg hunt and activities, speakers, recreation, weekly youth ministry, and partnering with Grace Church.

To view Crossroads fund drive videos, visit Pastor Robert's web blog at www.pastorrobort-nikos.blogspot.com and on the left side under labels, click on "Crossroad Campaign."

Red Cross Blood Drive

Monday, July 25, at Crossroads, 1:00-7:00 p.m.



Our Parish Nurse Ministry is sponsoring another blood drive on Monday, July 25. In April we exceeded our goal and we hope that you will help us do that again. To donate, you must be at least 17 years old, weigh a minimum of 110 pounds and be in general good health. You can sign up in the parlor on Sunday, July 10, 17 and 24. Someone will be there to sign you up. You can also call 653-3330 and the church receptionist can sign you up. *Did you know that 3 lives can be saved with just a single blood donation?* **Sign up (beginning July 10) and make a difference in someone's life.**

Help needed for two Crossroads events

We need help on Thursday, June 23, and Friday, June 24, and possibly on Wednesday, June 22 with meal preparation, serving and clean-up. Since we do not know numbers yet we do not know exactly how much time it will take. If you are available on any of these days please call the church receptionist (653-3330) and we will let you know the exact times as soon as we know.

We also need help on Saturday and Sunday, July 23 and July 24. If you are available on either of these days please call the church receptionist and we will let you know the exact times we need help. We thank you for your generous donation of your time and talents to help us make these events a success.

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. Begin now to plan on what you will make and sell at this event. 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 through the church office. Proceeds will support the Crossroads mortgage reduction campaign. Contact Lisa Williams (740-277-3650) for more information.



Christmas in July?

Dear Friends,

Someone at church recently asked me, "Are we going to celebrate 'Christmas in July' again this year? I hope so because it was a lot of fun!" I explained that this was a one-time deal but that we might consider it again whenever July 25 falls on a Sunday.

We did have a lot of fun celebrating Christmas last summer, didn't we? Around this time last year, we were making plans for our Santa's sleigh float for the July Fourth parade to invite people to attend our "Christmas in July" Sunday. And it worked! Our worship attendance on Sunday, July 25 was higher for that time of year. We also received a Christmas in July special offering totaling \$10,000 to go toward our district and conference apportionments.

Even though we won't be celebrating a summer yuletide this July, it's still a great time for us to invite friends and neighbors to worship with us at FUMC. There are many people in our community who have no church affiliation and they're just waiting for a personal invitation. If they have children, tell them about our Vacation Bible School which will be held at our Crossroads facility July 11-15, 6:00 to 8:30 p.m.

Every personal invitation has the potential to help someone grow in their faith and connect with a church family.

Thank you for reaching out. Have a happy summer!



Creative Ministries has busy Summer ahead!

Our Creative teams are gearing up for a summer of performances. In July the Virtuous Reality Blacklight team performs for Panda-Mania VBS at Crossroads on July 13 followed by performances at "Superkids" camp at Fairfield Christian on July 15 & 22. On July 17, they will be traveling to Wapakoneta, Ohio, to perform for a VBS at the First U.M.C. Church.



On July 21, Virtuous Reality will be featured at the MAX Conference in Grove City. Then it's off to Harrisonburg, Virginia, for a week of teaching and performing at the Fellowship of Christian Puppeteers National Conference, July 25-29. Our magic ministry, "Believe", will also be featured performers at the FCP conference.

On August 11-14, John Coen will be traveling to Bethlehem, PA to teach puppetry at a Chinese Church Camp.

The Good News Clown Crew will be performing at a nursing home in New Lexington on August 27 and possibly at a second location here in Lancaster that same day.



Work is also underway on a third installment of the DVD teaching series, "Neato Blacklight Ideas" produced by John Coen at our Crossroads facilities.

If you would like to become involved with any of these ministries, contact John Coen for more information.

UMW News Corner

Alas, summer is upon us and our ladies will be taking a break until the fall. However, we had two grand finales: our **Sweetheart Luncheon** on Wednesday, April 27th, and the **Mother's Day Brunch**, May 7th.

The Safari theme for the luncheon was given to the table decorations, the 20 door prizes and our program of African Drums presented by **Clarence McCoy** and his ensemble. A total of 84 UMW members and guests were in attendance.

The Mother's Day Brunch was a family affair with many mothers with daughters, sons and grandchildren filling the floral decorated tables. Our thanks to **Brenda Graf** for providing the dining piano music and our FUMC men who served, washed and cleaned up: **Don Cyrus, Bill Daubenmire, Paul Froman, Nate Hill, Clarence McCoy, Pastor Robert McDowell and Hank Uther**. **Opal Wacker and Nancy Streets** donated the brunch door prizes.

Coordinating both functions were members of the Local Church Committee: **Marlene Dupler (Ch), Marty Cutright, Sonja Durst, Alice Morse, Carola Neeley and Janice Stouder**. Thanks, Ladies!!



LEFT: Two of the Luncheon Door Prize Winners: Anne Smith & Ken Hoch. ABOVE: Brunch Guests: Diana Rose with Mother, Martha Snoke, and Peggy Kraus.

Plans are already in place for the fall. A special **Apple Dumpling Fundraiser** is set for September and we will be repeating the successful **Spookghetti Dinner** on **Saturday, October 8**, at Crossroads. Please put these activities on your calendars.

Meetings and meals for UMW will resume on **Wednesday, September 14**, with all the women joining Fellowship Dinners at Crossroads. The reason for this change to the second Wednesday in September is so that we can share a wonderful speaker with more than just UMW. The Rev. Fred Shaw, a living history educator, will present a program following Fellowship Dinner. More on this in the August/September issue of *The Circuit Rider*.

The **Executive Board** will meet on **Wednesday, August 3**, in **Room 26** to set the tone for the Fall activities. If you have any questions about UMW, you may contact **President Beverly Froman at 681-9364**.

Have a safe and peaceful summer. We will see you in the fall.

Natalie Hill, Communications

*Volunteers needed for
Foundation Dinners*

Call Libby Hensley (653-2555) or Lois Doxey (654-8336) if you can help. We serve the fourth Tuesday of each month from 3:00 p.m. until about 5:30 p.m.

Cookie Baking Ministry

One of the behind-the-scene ministries of FUMC is baking cookies for the Visitation Ministry. The Monday Night Callers take home-baked cookies to first-time visitors to welcome them. Right now we have a list of cookie bakers who bake 3-4 dozen cookies and bring them to the church on Mondays. A new schedule will be prepared this summer and if you would like to be part of this ministry, please contact Martha Pool, Clerical Assistant, at the church (Monday-Thursday) before the end of June. Thanks!



Drumming in the Spirit

We are considering putting together another Drumming in the Spirit session during the month of July. Participation is open to persons of any age from adult to upper elementary grades. No previous experience or ability to read music is necessary, just a willingness to have a good time while learning to play hand drums. Session days and times will be determined according to the availability of those who wish to participate, but possibilities include Wednesday evenings and Sunday afternoons. To sign up to be a part of our next session, contact Clarence McCoy as soon as possible at 740-653-3330, ext 232, or clarencemccoy@lancasterfumc.org.



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.

Why? by Adam Hamilton. Why do the innocent suffer? Why do my prayers go unanswered? Why can't I see God's will for my life? Why God's love prevails. These are the issues Adam Hamilton addresses in his new book, *Why?* Scot McKnight, says, "this book is a rare gift and the kind of book that needs to be close at hand for all Christians." \$7.50

The Power of Attitude, by Mack Anderson. Whatever your destination—success, purpose, peace, or other desire—attitude is the fuel for the journey there. *The power of Attitude* combines breathtaking photography and down-to-earth advice from Mac Anderson, a successful entrepreneur for over thirty years. Unleash the power in your heart! Attitude is a little thing that makes a big difference. Includes DVD. \$15.95

The Spiritual Brain, by Mario Beauregard, Ph.D., & Denyse O'Leary. Drawing on cutting-edge research in brain imaging done on Carmelite nuns, neuroscientist Mario Beauregard examines how our brain processes religious, mystical, and spiritual experiences. \$25.95

Coming Back Stronger, by Drew Brees. After Hurricane Katrina ravaged the Gulf Coast in 2005, the residents of New Orleans desperately needed something—*anything*—to believe in. And after being told he might never play football again due to a horrific shoulder injury, quarterback Drew Brees needed a team that believed he could still play...and win. Drew signed with the New Orleans Saints and immediately set to work rebuilding not only his own career but the city of New Orleans as well. Four years later, he led the Saints to their first Super Bowl in franchise history. Drew's invaluable insights on unleashing the hidden power of adversity are proof positive that with enough faith, determination, and heart, you can overcome anything. \$26.99

Don't Make Me Come Up There! By Kristen Welch. A calm moment is rare in a mom's chaotic day. But she needs it. She needs the inspiration to find God in the mess and the mundane that often defines her. She needs to laugh and remember why she loves being a mom. *Don't Make Me Come Up There!* is filled with inspirational and hilarious true-life stories and reflections written by a very human mom. \$12

THE CIRCUIT RIDER



A Ministry of Friendship

Would you like to visit someone from our congregation who is unable to be with us in worship? You are invited to be part of the Sharing Hearts ministry! We need persons to visit out friends who live in assisted living/nursing facilities as well as those who reside in their own homes. The visits can be made at times that suit you and the person you visit. Visitors can be any age or grouping (single visitors, couples, parent and child, etc.).

During the month of June 2011 the Sharing Hearts ministry will have an information table in the parlor on Sunday mornings. Drop by and talk to Susie Grisct and Loretta Dozer, the coordinators of Sharing Hearts. There are many opportunities for beginning new friendships that will enrich your life. Staff contacts are Peg Parker and Cheryl Foulk.

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

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 Patty Daubenmire

Jean (Graf) Windesheim
Don & Sherry Berry
Ray & Deborah Baskin
Del & Jane Bontrager
Ron & Emmy Dillon
Marvin & Joan Stafford
Sue Hargrove
James & Jean Drummond
John & Mary Lou Thompson

In memory of Millie Hart

Bill & Bev Duerson
Jon & Carol Slater

In memory of Nancy Gardner

Mary Jane Bohlander
John & Jane Steinmetz
AHS Class of 1960
John & Yvonne Bowland
Greg & Tenny Sanders
Norma Bagby
Joe & Becky Clark
Dave & June Harcum
Norma Oatney
Kelly Smith
Chuck and Judy Haley
Ron & Emmy Dillon
Ray & Deborah Baskin
Dan & Linda Bolger
Mary Anne Theller
Paul & Beverly Froman
Dale & Marleen McManus
Rebecca Circle UMW
Del & Jane Bontrager

In memory of Jane Hussey

Jim & Jan Etta Hussey

Sewing Hands in the Church

The Trustees express their gratitude to several individuals for volunteering to care for our facilities and make improvements. Since May 2010 the Trustees have had to rely heavily on our congregation to fill in some areas since we no longer have a custodial staff. Please accept our apologies if we have omitted your gifts of service—we just haven't caught you in the act!

- ◆ **Joe & Jan Conrad** for working in the church's flower beds
- ◆ **Dale McManus** for mowing at the Rising House and shoveling snow
- ◆ **Larry Aebersold** for changing light bulbs and repairing lights
- ◆ **Adam Custer** for changing light bulbs
- ◆ **Marie & Joella Stapp** for maintaining our flowerbeds at Crossroads
- ◆ **Jim & Sharon Hachtel** for renovating the church's second floor restroom
- ◆ **Tim Warner & Bill Pressler** for installing the new oven and stovetop in the parsonage
- ◆ **Dale Fisher** for building a lumber storage rack at Crossroads and other odd jobs
- ◆ **Bill Creiglow** for repairing our icemakers at Crossroads and the Rising House
- ◆ **Carola Neeley, Pearleene Reffitt, Karen Lerch, Jo Ann Creiglow and Marcie Miesse** for sanitizing our nurseries
- ◆ **Rick Wilkins and family** for mowing
- ◆ **Doug Diehl** for mowing and for weed-eating at Crossroads
- ◆ **Ron Dillon, Jim Hachtel, and Gary & Sherry Johnson** for snow removal
- ◆ **Marleen McManus and Paul Froman** for scrubbing rugs at the church
- ◆ **Jerry Inman** for replacing batteries at Crossroads

Thank you for sharing your gifts, time and talents!



Summer Youth Breakfast at Rising House at 11 a.m. on June 26, July 10, 17, 24 and Aug 7, 14, 21.

SKOPE concerts!

The next summer concert will be held on July 1 at Crossroads. Go to skopeconcerts.com to view the band lineup & visit our facebook page.

Tornado Relief

Some of you have asked about volunteering to assist people affected by tornadoes in Joplin, Mo. Currently the UM church is being asked NOT to send volunteers into these areas. The emergency is still in the initial stages and during this stage volunteers can do more harm than good. Volunteers are welcome in Tushka, OK where on May 14 a tornado destroyed 149 homes. For more information see – <http://new.gbqm-umc.org/umcor/>

Note – if you feel called to serve please consult with the Global Mission Committee about how we can help you answer your call. Donations to UMCOR may be placed in the offering plate anytime.

Thanks

Dear Friends and Family at First Church,

Thank you so much for your concerns, prayers and expressions of love about the passing of my wife Nancy. The cards, phone calls and church visitations were extremely comforting. Nancy always thought life was beautiful and enlightening, mainly because of wonderful people in her life like you.

Blessings are offered by our family, Robbin Gardner, Greg & Elizabeth Gardner & Rachael Gardner

Dear FUMC "Second Saturday Ministry,"

How kind of you to come to our aid in cleaning our Seifert Museum at the Lancaster Camp Ground. This was a two-story endeavor by four sturdy women who had to wear masks on the second "storage" floor, but they persevered with their sweet spirit and smiles until the job was accomplished!!!

The Camp Ground Historical Society is eternally grateful and we thank you for serving our community with such love and grace.

God's blessings to you all, Judy Morgan,
Secretary, LCG Historical Society

Dear Family Concerns Ministry,

The luncheon following Patty's memorial service was wonderful. The delicious meal and the attentive care of the committee members during the meal was so helpful. Our family is so appreciative of the caring ministry which comes at a time when families really need a helping hand. God bless you all.

Jim Daubenmire & Family

Dear FUMC,

We shall always remember with deep gratitude your comforting expression of sympathy.

Loretta Nicholson

Dear John & Puppet Team,

WOW is the word. Everyone LOVED the show. You did a great job and I can't thank you enough for taking the time to come to Malta. I hope you got a good love offering! May the Lord bless you and all of your team for all that you do. Maybe we will see you again sometime. Take care & be safe! Have a great summer.

Blessings, Susie Alderman & Cheryl Taylor (Malta U.M.C.)

Dear Friends,

I was so blessed to be in the congregation at Malta this past Friday evening. What a fun & fine time we enjoyed at your puppet presentation. My nephew attends your church. I called & told him what a fine ministry you had. They haven't seen it, but feel sure they will when it's offered there next time. They did know of the ministry however. May God richly bless all of you.

Love in Christ, Marva Hyett

Thank You, Thank You, Thank You!!!

A special thank you to everyone who helped to make Fellowship Dinners a success in 2010-2011! It takes many people to prepare and serve these dinners. There are people who set the tables and those who clean up by cleaning the tables, washing dishes and cleaning the kitchen and seeing that everything is put away. We thank each and everyone one of you who helped with these dinners. Hopefully you will want to help again when we start up again on September 14.

Weight Watchers begins new 10-week session

New folks can join the fun and register for the next 10-week session of Weight Watchers on Thursday, June 16 or 23. Weight Watchers meets every Thursday at 5:15 in Fellowship Hall. For more information please call Sherry Johnson at 740-653-9541 after 7 p.m.

