

August 2010

THE MESSENGER

WALNUT GROVE – GRACE – WAYNE STREET

(A Newsletter for Saint Marys United Methodist Circuit)

Love God, Love People, Change the World!!



From the Pastor

FINDING "UP"

Our son James and his wife were recently certified for scuba diving in open water. They said it was a blast and look forward to more underwater adventures. In their training they learned that in deep water it is easy to get disoriented. As you go deeper the water diffuses the light, and you don't feel the pull of gravity. If you are not careful, your mind will play tricks on you and you will think that up is down and down is up. When that happens, you can swim the wrong way and put your life in danger. So to make sure you don't find yourself in danger, you need to follow this simple rule: Follow the air bubbles!

Scuba divers are taught that no matter what direction they think is up, the air bubbles always go up! Air bubbles do not go down or sideways; they always go up toward the surface of the water. So when confusion and disorientation comes, the divers must ignore their own feelings and sense of direction and place their faith in the air bubbles.

Life today can be the same way. We can easily get disoriented. We are constantly being told that right is wrong and wrong is right, and we begin to wonder which way is up. When this happens, we need to remember this simple rule: Follow the Lord's direction. Like the scuba diver's air bubbles, the Bible is always correct in providing us correct information and directions about spiritual, moral, and ethical matters. No matter how we feel or think, we need to trust in the Lord and follow the life-saving air bubbles of God's Word.

So, how do we determine what is right or wrong? How do we decide which path God wants us to follow? While the Bible does not speak directly to every life issue we may face, where it does speak clearly we can be confident that we have discovered God's desire for our life. Even when the direction we sense seems out of line with society or contrary with our own feelings, we can be confident that God has pointed us in the right direction.

The Bible does not tell us whether we should get married and if so whom to marry, but it does tell us what married life is to be like and that as believers in Jesus Christ we are to marry a Christian. The Bible doesn't tell us what car to drive, or how to spend our money, but it does clearly point out the dangers of greed and the virtue of generosity. The Bible won't tell you where to go on a date, but it does define marriage as the appropriate context for sexual expression. We don't learn every solid business practice from the Bible (we do learn some), but the Bible does point us toward justice and integrity in all dealing with others.

In a sea of voices shouting to us, "This is the right way," we need the air bubbles of God's Word to help us find "up." Those bubbles – where Scripture has clear teaching – are the air we believe and the markers that lead us to the life that God has intended for us. And that is the best possible life we can experience on this earth.

Pastor Steve

PASTORAL CARE

Pastor Steve (567-644-5778) and Pastor Jon (567-644-8050) will alternate weeks for pastoral care. Give them a call if you are in need of pastoral care, or call the church office at 419-394-3615.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN "PASTORAL CARE TRAINING"?

Many lay persons have pastoral gifts, not just the Pastor. God wants you to use the gifts He has given you to build up the Body of Christ. The Northwest Plains District Office is offering training on "Pastoral Care" which is designed to help you discover, develop, and use your gifts and calling in your local church alongside your pastor. THE PASTOR CANNOT DO IT ALONE. God may be calling you to strengthen and revitalize your church family through welcoming, visitation, discipling and nurture.

You are invited to participate in a course in pastoral care this fall. This will be the first time this course has been taught. The course is open to anyone interested in pastoral care. If you have been doing hospital visits, it will be helpful. If you are a lay speaker, you will receive a certificate of attendance for certification. Check the web site for further information nwplains@wocumc.org



Financial Corner General Fund May and June 2010

Total Budgeted needs for May	\$40,304
Received for May	\$43,147
Actual expenses for May	\$38,897
Total Budgeted needs for June	\$38,434
Received for June	\$36,216
Actual expenses for June	\$33,489
Average Attendance for May – "First Light" – 180/ AWAKEN – 236/ TOTAL - 416	
Average Attendance for June – "First Light" – 176/ AWAKEN – 171/ TOTAL – 347	
Total Received Building Fund May	\$ 9,711
Total Received Building Fund June	\$69,279
Total Budgeted needs for General Fund/August	\$39,011



PRAYER REQUESTS:

Chad to Afghanistan	Steve Bargdill	Christa Conover
Ralph Donohoe (knee surgery)	Julie Ford	Mabelline Goodwin
Tyler Gorby	Joann Liming	Carolyn Sidey
Brent Slife	Beth	Ammy Snyder

FORGET-ME-NOTS:

September 4 is Jessalyn Miller's 90th birthday. Let's not forget one of our shut-ins, and let's send her lots of birthday greetings. Her address is

228 Cherry Street, St. Marys, OH 45885

All of our shut-ins could use a card or a visit now and then in addition to our regular Care Team that call on them.

I want to thank all of the Care Team members and the Communion Team for all that they do. It really makes my job easier knowing that I have such willing people to call on all of our shut-ins. Thanks so much.

We do have another task before us, and that is making a phone call to people who have not been in church for 3 or more weeks. If this is something you would like to help do, please give me a call at 419-394-5980 or 419-953-8708. I could use several to make this job a lot easier.

Thanks, Barb Fitzgerald





Family of Craig Atkens
Family of Diane Burke
Family of Jason Kline
Family of Darmon Allan Miller (Ralph Donohoe's 4 year old grandson)
Family of James Wierwille

PRAISES

Alexa Sutton for having Jesus in her life.

NEW BABIES!!

Kaiden James Ibarra, born June 10, 2010

Parents: Joni Brown and Caleb Ibarra
Grandparents: Joe & Carol Brown

Regan Winters Noble, born June 18, 2010

Parents: Tina & Jeff Noble
Grandparents: Chris & Kraig Noble
Great Grandparents: Kay & Ed Noble

Anderson Marvin Suter, born June 4, 2010

Parents: Beth Dicke and Joshua Suter
Grandparents: Tim and Candy Dicke



NEW MEMBERS!!

Elizabeth Knous
Austin E. Reynolds
Jacob K. Sutton

BAPTISMS

Evan Michael Klosterman – son of Mark & Alana Klosterman

Guatemala Mission Trip June 19-27

Cheryl Kuck, Jace Kuck, Cale Kuck, Jay Kuck, Alex Rompilla, Brad Goodwin,
Jack McBride, John Moul



NURSERY SCHEDULE

August 1

8:30- Dan and Sue Grothause

9:45- *Volunteer Needed*

10:50-*Volunteer Needed*

August 8

8:30-Keith and Julie Jacobs

9:45-Keith and Julie Jacobs

10:50-Linne Huber

August 15

8:30-Kirk Dicke

9:45- Stacy Glass

10:50-Stacy Glass

August 22

8:30- Kris and Kevin Jacobs

9:45-Kris and Kevin Jacobs

10:50-Valerie McCallister

August 29

8:30-*Volunteer Needed*

9:45-*Volunteer Needed*

10:50-*Volunteer Needed*





WORSHIP SERVICE SCHEDULE

Saint Marys Methodist Circuit

Wayne Street UMC

8:30 a.m.	Traditional Worship Celebration
9:45 -10:30 a.m.	Sunday School
10:45 a.m.	Contemporary Worship Celebration

Walnut Grove UMC

9:30 a.m.	Sunday School
10:30 a.m.	Worship

Grace UMC

9 a.m.	Worship
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News from Grace:

The month of August is the month that birds begin planning to fly south for the winter, and insects are noisier and more numerous than in any other month. In August weeds and other crops grow the fastest, and it's the time to harvest:

There is a time for planting, but also a time for the harvest. We are called to sow seeds for the kingdom, but also to bring in the harvest. Jesus said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few." - Matt. 9:37

What happens when the crop is neglected and not harvested? What happens when it is left standing in the field too long? It shrivels up and dies. The opportunity has passed. The crop is lost.

We are called to plant kingdom seeds, but we are also called to harvest. We must be daily working the fields and not allowing the crops to die due to lack of attention or lack of workers. Jesus sent out his 12 disciples to bring in the harvest and told them to touch lives and perform miracles and healings. However, His primary instruction was to preach the kingdom of God and repentance. Harvesting is bringing people into the kingdom of God, into a life of repentance, complete submission to the Lord, and victory in Christ. They went out and preached that people should repent. - Mark 6:12

As followers of Christ, let's challenge each to be doers of the Word, not just hearers. Let's spur each other on to roll up our sleeves and bring in the harvest.

Grace Church would like to welcome our new Church Secretary, Donna Hembree. Let's pray God will bless her and she will find enjoyment in her new position.

We would like to thank Nellie House on her dedication in sending cards to those in need. I often see Nellie in the office on Sunday morning making sure the cards are ready to be signed by the congregation. I'm sure these cards are blessed and very much appreciated by their receivers.

We thank Lucille Nuhfer for her years of dedicated service to our church and had an enjoyable going away dinner with her on July 25 at the EZ Campground.

The summer Bible Classes at Toni Beener's this summer were a great success, and the kids all had a great time. We hope that the size will double each year as the children learn about God and how to become good Christians.

August Nursery Schedule:

August 1---Kristen Davis
August 8---Mary Wendel
August 15--Sue Roby
August 22--Tiffany Davis
August 29--Sarah Wendell:

August Birthdays:

August 2---Kurt Grossman
August 7---Kaylynn Becker
August 9---Allison Bowers
August 13--Jane Thomes
August 16--Mason Heller
August 17--Barb Minnich
August 20--Ali Johnides
August 23--Leroy Goodwin, Nellie House
August 26--Linda McMurray
August 30--Lilli Heller
August 31--Yvonne Miller

August Anniversaries:

August 3---Toni & Bruce Beener
August 5---Vicky & Roger Dysert
August 9---Lillian & Harold Quickle

Quote of the month:

“He that has a good harvest must be content with a few thistles.”

Have a great and blessed month.

Please visit our website: www.graceunitedmc.com

Walnut Grove UMC
17519 County Road 66A
Sunday Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.

UMW EVENTS:

ARE YOU USING YOUR KROGER REBATE CARDS?

The Kroger rebate cards are a wonderful way to help the church. Every time you use your Kroger card to purchase your family's groceries, gas, prescriptions or anything that you regularly purchase at Kroger, we receive a percentage of what you spend. We get a monthly check which goes directly into our general fund.

Don't forget to use them ! – just load them at the Service Desk before you shop. You can use your charge card or debit card, check or cash when you put money on your rebate card. Only catch – you must get a special card for \$5 to get started, which has been allocated to the church. You can get your starter card through Patsy Schwendeman or the church office to get started.

We have about 50 members using the cards now. Can you Imagine if we all took the time to use them!! It's time for school supplies, so remember to reload and use your cards. They also make great gifts for anyone--or perhaps you know of a family that could use a little assistance with the cost of getting their children ready for school – surprise them with a card!

Thanks for all of you who continue to use this project to help the Wayne Street UMC.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

We have a new ministry at Wayne Street!! If you are interested in getting involved in a prayer shawl ministry, please call Deb Knox at 419-305-2956. There will be a meeting in Room 200 on Tuesday, August 10 from 1 – 3 p.m. Join them for fellowship and Planning projects. Everyone is invited to join this group.

COME TO THE FIRE WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

If you enjoyed the spiritual atmosphere of the Chocolate Boutique, then I would like to invite you to another ladies retreat – Come to the Fire – led by the Titus Women's Ministry. It will be held on Fort Wayne's Purdue University campus in the Rhinehart Music Hall September 30 through October 2.

The theme this year will be from Ezekiel 36:23 "Then the nations will know that I am the Lord, declares the Sovereign Lord, when I show myself holy through you before their eyes." The keynote speaker is Beth Coppedge, who I can assure you will be someone you love to hear; and the music will be spiritually invigorating and alive. It starts Thursday evening and runs through noon on Saturday with time built in for reflection and discussion.

There is no fee for this retreat, so the expense is travel, food and lodging. The conference always gets local hotels to offer special rates to those who register early. I would love to take a large group of ladies. It is a great way to get to know the ladies you worship with a little better and to grow a little closer to our Lord.

If you have any questions, feel free to call me at 419-394-4185 or dena.weatherly@gmail.com; or you can go to the web site – cometothefire.org/conference.

Please save the dates September 30 through October 2 for Come to the Fire.

Dena

CALLING ALL CHRISTIANS!!

What is a Prayer Walk? It's believers stepping into the community to pray effectively for their neighbors. It is going BEYOND THE WALLS of the church to pray with our eyes open to real needs and our ears open to *the promptings of God's Spirit*. It's finding out what we can do FOR our community by being IN the community.

The prayer walk ministry continues. One will be held the first Saturday of each even numbered month (February, April, June, August, October, December).

PLEASE JOIN US ON THE NEXT WALK:

Saturday, August 7, 2010
Breakfast 8 a.m./Worship Music 8:30 a.m.
Grace United Methodist Church
237 North Pine Street
St. Marys

Bring children and babies in strollers. For those who are unable to walk, please let us know you would like to participate, and we will have drivers lined up for you. We want it to be comfortable, convenient and easy for ALL to participate. New routes will be made and new areas prayed for. We want to win our community for Jesus! *Let's wrap the entire city in prayer!*

Please consider giving this adventure in prayer a try. There is nothing more powerful we can do for our community than to pray for it.

Joe and Bev Hurlburt (419-394-6817)

Inspiration

What's that? I watch the white tide
crash upon the rocks as God's
hand reaches down upon my
forehead and touches me gently.
I get up, tarry across the creek
and down the woods through the winding
path of life, --- Hmm --- "Will I ever be inspired?"
I ask myself.

By Sherry Rogers

PRESTIGE DINING CLUB FOR JUNE - DECEMBER 2010

These cards are for buy one/get one free at many wonderful participating restaurants in the area. The price is \$25 for the card which you present when you order your meal. (\$5 of each card that is sold goes to the Van Fund for WSUMC). Included is a buy 1/get 1 Free Dinner & Show at La Comedia Dinner Theatre. Local participating restaurants include Michael Anthony's at the Inn at Versailles, The Knotty Pine, Pullman Bay, Bella's Italian Grille, Casey Jones Family Restaurant, the Grille on Main Street, Casa Lupita, Three Generations, St. Henry Nite Club, and many more in Lima, Troy, Wapakoneta and surrounding areas. Great buy – great gift!!

Call 419-394-3615 for more information.

Youth Upcoming Items:

WSUMC YOUTH KICK-OFF

Who: Youth entering grades 7-12 (and their families)

When: Sunday, August 8, at 4 p.m.

Where: K.C. Geiger Park, diamond #1

What: Softball, corn hole, and hillbilly golf

Why: To meet other youth and their families
(In case of rain, meet at the church.)

WE HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!

August 1st: Faith Day after Red's game – Mercy Me (Mark and family are going, others are encouraged to attend.)

August 13th, 14th, & 15th : Summerfest Clean-up – Need much help - \$2500 profit – If we don't have enough workers, the missions team will assist and split profit.

COOL WORSHIP

We will be starting COOL Worship on Wednesday, September 22, from 5:30 to 6:45. We will be meeting in the Movie Room for kids K-5th grade (this will be for 5th graders not doing the Bible Quiz Team). We will be learning, doing crafts, singing, and playing games. Hope you join us!! Looking forward to seeing all of you again and some new faces too! – Bring your friends! If you have any questions, please contact:
Audra Sutton – 419-303-6020.

QUIZ BOWL

FOR INTERESTED 5th and 6th GRADERS WILL START SOMETIME IN AUGUST. WATCH THE BULLETIN FOR MORE INFORMATION OR:

CONTACT KAREN HUNTER @ 419-738-3401.

**CHICKEN & NOODLES DINNER
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 18, 2010
PRICE \$6**

**WAYNE STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH FELLOWSHIP HALL
130 N. Wayne Street, St. Marys, OH 45885**

MEAL TO BE SERVED FROM 4:30 – 7 p.m.

MEAL:

**Chicken & Noodles
Mashed Potatoes
Green Beans
Jell-o Salad
Dessert
Drinks: Coffee, Water, Tea, Lemonade**

CARRY-OUT AVAILABLE

Tickets available from the church office and Finance Team members:

Wayne Freewalt	Linda Horn	Sue Ballweg
Lynn Persinger	April Johns	Joe Ginter
Amy Jessen	Denise Cisco	Dennis Stienecker
Ray Sidey	Keith Jacobs	Bud Fitzgerald
John Moul	Dennis Chiles	Crystal Frinrock

Proceeds will go to the General Fund.

The mission team is planning another Italian Fundraising event. Please see details below.

Under The Tuscan Sky

"Italian Cuisine"

September 25

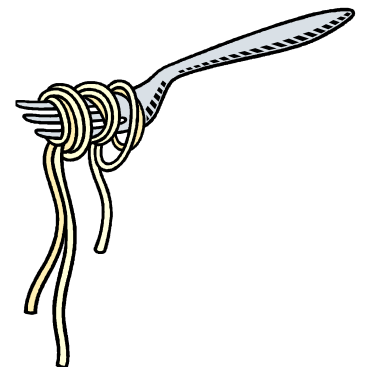
\$12.50 per person

Dinner and Entertainment

Reserved Times: 5 p.m. & 7 p.m.

Seating is limited so get your tickets early!

For tickets see the Mission Information Board.



RACK's (Random Acts of Christian Kindness)

On August 14 @ 3 p.m. before the parade starts, we will be passing out popcorn to those waiting for the parade to start.

The mission team plans these outreach events for the congregation to participate. We all have the gift of servant hood. You can use that gift to reach out to your community with the love of God.

We need people to help pop the popcorn, put it in bags and pass the popcorn down the street. If you can help, please note that on the registration form or call Angie Myers 419-852-0903.



On July 16th & 17th, WSUMC hosted their second annual Chocolate Boutique women's retreat, Bloom Where You're Planted. It is so inspiring what can happen in a community when we involve God! Over 150 women from the area attended/participated in this spiritual weekend. The weekend was filled with inspirational music, passionate speakers, motivating sessions, food, fellowship and fun!

The committee would like to thank the church for allowing us to host this retreat in our awesome facility. A special thank you to Pastor Steve for bathing the entire retreat in prayer. To the musicians, session leaders, speakers, retreat helpers and janitors, thank you for your time, talents and service. You are greatly appreciated!

Our prayer for everyone that attended/participated in the retreat is they feel spiritually renewed, grew in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior and will begin to bloom *wherever* they are planted!

Sincerely, Bev Hurlburt Jane Brigham Jennie Barnes Kim Kill Trena Chiles

Dear Friends in Christ,

It has been our great pleasure to share this special time of fellowship and praise through music with you. We are grateful for your warm hospitality. This experience has touched our lives and we pray it has been meaningful for you as well. We thank you for opening your church and your hearts to us – your kindnesses have been most appreciated.

God Bless, Wesley United Methodist Church, Bells & Youth Choirs – Bloomington, IL

A special thank you to Wayne Street church for your caring spirit in sending cards, making phone calls and visits, for all memorial gifts, and especially for your thoughts and prayers for my mother, Margaret Sommer.

Betty (Sommer) and Allan Woodmansee

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS	
1. Kelly Byer Kyle Dammeyer Walter Horner Kelly Jo Makley Trishelle Rockwood	17. Laurie Byer Kendra Deubler Debra Tester Virginia Wierwille
3. Todd Bowman Rose Cline Daniel Grothouse Gary Wibbeler	18. Logan Chiles Jeannine Goodwin
4. Abbi Chiles Joyce Johnson	19. Janet Weimert
5. Candice Dicke	21. Andrew Durkee Eric Kerns Kimberlee Pierce Gavin Sutton Ian Young
6. Brandon Hollman Travis Jessen Marvel Lee Martin	22. Shawn Goodwin Lois McDermitt
9. Elizabeth Barlettt Jenna Finrock	23. Shirley Clausing Abigail Imwalle
10. David Burkholder Brian Whitling Jacob Zimmerman	24. Emma Freewalt Caleb Kraner Denise Dammeyer Cheryl Zimmerman
11. Aerial N. Edwards Pat Neely Wendy Knous Mary Salter	25. Bo Kuenning II Kevin Moran Megan Webster Barbara Wibbeler
12. Daniel Hay	26. James Campbell
13. Dottie McOmber Jeffrey Noble	27. Jake Kable Eric Plokhooy
14. John Kuhn Parker Miley	28. Kevin Doseck Cheryl Moor Jack Moul
15. Luke Borns Beth Keuneke Ray Sidey	31. Kenneth Cattarin Joan Glass Allison Jacobs Alexa McMurray Alexa Sutton Logan Vondrell Luke Vondrell

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES
1. Mike and Terri Kerns Paul and Lola Leasor
4. Edwin and Kimberlee Pierce
5. James and Jean Campbell Timothy and Candice Dicke
7. Edward and Cheryl Broyles
8. Jeff and Kelly Jo Makley
12. Peter and Marilyn Burke
13. Dale and Glenda Kuck
15. Harry and Stephanie Schipper
17. Thomas and Roberta Yingling
19. Jon and Melissa Kiehl Jeff and Jean Vossler
21. Rick and Linda Haines
22. Robert and Elnora Cisco
24. Edward and Kathleen Noble
26. Adam and Kacie Chiles Randy and Sandy Matthews
27. Nick and Erin Koesters Ray andCarolynn Sidey
28. Darwin and Beverly Zeigler
29. James and Geraldine Beckett Gordon and Kim Kill



We apologize if your birthday or anniversary does not appear on this list. We would like to include your information, so please contact the church office (419-394-3615) with your celebration dates.

ATTENTION:

ALL ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR SUNDAY'S BULLETIN AND SCREEN PRESENTATION MUST BE IN THE CHURCH OFFICE NO LATER THAN MONDAY AT 4 p.m. DUE TO RECENT CONFUSION, WE WILL ONLY TAKE REQUESTS FOR ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM "TEAM LEADERS" DIRECTLY. DO NOT GIVE REQUESTS TO PASTORS! (IT'S TOO DISRUPTIVE FOR THE SPIRITUALITY OF THE MORNING SERMON TO BE GIVEN LAST-MINUTE ANNOUNCEMENTS). THEY MUST COME IN TO THE CHURCH OFFICE BY MONDAY AT 4 p.m. FOR THE FOLLOWING SUNDAY! THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION.

ATTENTION:

THE AUGUST MESSENGER IS NOW AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE. PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.WAYNESTREETUMC.ORG FOR YOUR COPY. HARD COPIES CAN BE FOUND ON THE CONNECTION TABLE IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL.

IF YOU NEED A COPY MAILED TO YOUR HOME YOU MUST LET THE CHURCH OFFICE KNOW BY CALLING 419-394-3615, OR SIGNING ON THE SHEET NEXT TO THE NEWSLETTERS. OUR GOAL IS TO SAVE ON POSTAGE AND THE COST OF PRINTING BUT WE WILL MAIL TO YOU IF YOU DESIRE. THERE WILL BE EXTRA COPIES ON THE CONNECTION TABLE ALL MONTH. THANKS FOR YOUR COOPERATION

ATTENTION:

**THE SEPTEMBER MESSENGER ARTICLES WILL BE DUE IN THE OFFICE
BY AUGUST 15.**

