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Inside:

- Lent Pull Out Guide
- Lots of Youth News and Events
- New Members Chris Ontko and Elaine Mates
- New Email Prayer Chain
- Website Updates
- Homeless Stand Down – we need your help!

Church Life

At Yellowstone and Mayfield

Volume 66 Number 5

February, 2010

Growing Disciples

Ourselves. Our Church. Our Community. Our World.

Ourselves

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Our Church

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***Our 2010 Lenten Guide
Is found in the center of
this newsletter – please
keep it for reference!***



Dear Disciples:

The church world has been riveted to news of rescue and survival since the earthquake hit on January 12th, praying for the safety of missionaries and mission trip travelers, as well as the people and children of Haiti. What brings me to tears every time are the pictures and sounds of so many desperate people praying. Praying words like these:

*I am not afraid anymore. I have survived the worst disaster in the history of Haiti and I am alive talking to you now. It is like I died in the earthquake, but I am alive. I am alive. Thanks, God, thanks, God, thanks, God -- spoken in strong Creole accent by Herode Guillaumette, a Haitian partner in ministry with Church World Service.**

I am moved by the magnitude of the prayers going on in the wake of such a disaster when far too many people cannot expect even the basics of daily food and water. There are prayers of grief, as well as this one of gratitude, and prayers of hope even in the most dire of circumstances.

People *holding on* to their faith. People forced to *let go* of what little they may have had. It is, appropriately enough, our Lenten theme for 2010. *Holding On and Letting Go*. Unlike Haiti, at Disciples Christian, we have the essentials of life. But certainly each of us has struggles and issues that test our faith. Is our faith what we *hold on to* in times of need and trials? Is it what we return to when we have fallen away? And, on the flip side, what gets in the way? What faith substance do we lack? What is it we must *let go* of in order to walk more closely with God – to be the faithful, generous and compassionate people God commands us to be?

We have a full slate of worship, study, and outreach planned for Lent, asking these questions and many others, seeking answers in God's word, and *servicing* all the while. I am most excited about some new prayer initiatives because I believe we can never have too much prayer going on. Join me, won't you, in the intensity and sacrifice of the Lenten walk that leads us to the glory of Easter morning.

Monsieur Guillaumette's prayer is, after all, an Easter prayer. *It is like I died, but I am alive!* Praise God.

See you in church –

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pastor Chris".

*Church World Service is the organization that receives and ships the baby care and hygiene kits that Disciples Christian and hundreds of other congregations have prepared and donated for Haiti. Thanks to *Linda Walling* for heading up this effort.

Growing Disciples

Ourselves. Our Church. Our Community. Our World.

Ourselves

ADULT EDUCATION DURING DISCIPLES' HOUR

Many educational opportunities are available to us during Lent! The Disciples' Hour offerings for the month of February may be found in the Pull-Out Lenten Guide in the center of this newsletter. Watch for March offerings in our next edition. All are welcome – and encouraged – to grow in their discipleship by seeking to grow in their Christian education!

TIME AND TALENT SURVEY

For your convenience, our Time and Talent Survey is now available both in the church office and as a download on our website: www.discipleschristian.org. Please don't hide your light under a bushel – God needs you and the Holy Spirit has equipped you so let's make the best possible use of your time and of your talents! **Let's grow Disciples!!**

Our Church

LENT AT DISCIPLES



Hands, holding on in a prayerful pose and opened wide as if letting go. Different meanings may be seen as one meditates on this graphic symbol for our 2010 Lenten Season's

theme. The hands in prayer within a circle remind us of our fellow humans around the globe, who need our prayers and gifts. The arching words complete the semi-circle, a

reminder of the glorious sunrise of Easter morning. Two hands open wide representing "letting go" as Jesus did when he healed the sick and when he was nailed to the cross. These open hands also appear ready to receive. Are you ready to receive the unique blessings and spiritual gifts during this Holy period of Lent?

We are grateful to our Moderator, Sue Curtis for designing our 2010 Lenten Logo – her generous gift of her many talents lifts us all!

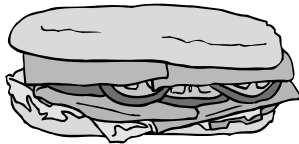
FROM PASTOR TIM'S COMPUTER

- ☛ Attention **all** youth: February 28th we will do a service project at the Homeless Stand Down in Cleveland. Come to church ready to serve! When we're finished, we'll have a "wind down" activity. Watch bulletin for details and times.
- ☛ Peace Jam is here! Pastor Tim has completed his training and now it is time for our Peace Jammers to prepare for our trip April 16th – 18th. The fourth Sunday of every month, CYF will be devoted to Peace Jam. Invite friends to this be a part of this awesome opportunity to both help our world – as Christ did – and build valuable experience to include on your college applications. The first meeting will be on January 31st.
- ☛ **Youth Mission Trip:** are you interested in helping to plan a youth mission trip? Contact *Pastor Tim!*
- ☛ **CYF Mid-Winter Retreat** with other District 2 Disciples March 5th through 7th: If you are interested in attending, please contact *Pastor Tim* for a registration form. Sponsors are also needed to go with our Youth and, if you are willing, give *Pastor Tim* a call!

**SUPER BOWL SUBS ON SUPER BOWL
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7TH!**

It's time to order!!

**Support our Youth Group's Mission Trip
and
enjoy a SUB at the same time!!**



**THE SUPER-SUB COMBO's ARE ONLY
\$7.00 EACH and include:
ONE 6" SUB SANDWICH, CHIPS and
DESSERT**

Contact the church office or Pastor Tim to order by January 31st! Let us know how many Turkey, Cheese/Veggie, and/or Italian combos you'd like and then pick them up in Fellowship Hall on February 7th!

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Members and Participants

- † *JoAnne Humbert*, chemotherapy
- † *Kelly Wicks*, study semester in Milan, Italy
- † *Vi Radomilovich*, home
- † *Suzanne Prech*, broken wrist
- † *Don Ehrlich*, on assignment in Mexico

Our Extended Families

- † *David Rogers-Berry*, brother of *Mark Rogers-Berry*, cancer chemo/surgery
- † *Daniel Lake*, cancer/chemotherapy, brother of *Patrick Lake*
- † *Diane Logan*, *Duane Mayhew's* daughter, rehab, Breckenridge

Our Members at Home

Barbara Seaver, Summerville of Mentor;
Barbara Harold, Homewood Residence in Richmond Heights; *Margaret Beer*, Broadview Manor; *Louise Consilio*, home; *Marian Green*, Breckinridge; *Marjia Hehr*, home; *Frank and Avena Jayne*, The Fairways; *Barbara Ross*, Grande Pointe, *Lois Valentine*, home.

CONGRATULATIONS

to the Ehrlich family on the birth of *Max's* healthy daughter, *Donyelle Maureen* and mother *Jessica*. Born 1/13/10, *Donyelle* weighed seven pounds and five ounces. *Kim and Don* are proud grandparents!

WE OFFER OUR SYMPATHY TO

- † *Bonnie Goldner* and her family on the death of her mother, *Mary Gillespie*;
- † *Pell Meier* on the death of her mother, *Jean Ebert*;
- † The *Bergeon* family on the death of our former member, *Ella Bergeon*.

THE DISCIPLES BOOK CLUB

The Disciples Book Club will meet in the Chapel on Tuesday evening, February 16th at 7:00 p.m. We will be discussing Remarkable Creatures by Tracy Chevalier. Ever since December 1, 2009, *Mary Anning* has been a unique girl because she survived being struck by lightning as a baby. She has a special knack for finding rare fossils of unknown creatures on the beaches near her home. *Elizabeth Philpot* is a young spinster when she meets *Mary*, instantly taking an interest in fossils herself. From that moment, friendship grows between these two women as they navigate family, love, society, and the male dominated world of fossils. Looking forward to seeing you on the 16th.

CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Our CWF group will have its annual lunch and book discussion at *Mary Sayre's* home at noon on Wednesday, February 17th. Since our church library contains so many wonderful books, we ask that you choose one to read before the meeting. Instead of choosing one book for all of us to read, we decided that it would be fun to have each member pick a book and then give a short synopsis of it at the meeting. So your assignment is to choose a book, curl up and read it and then come to *Mary's* to let us know how you liked it. Hope to see many of you there.

MEN OF DISCIPLES

will have our next meeting on Wednesday, February 10th at 7:30 p.m. in the Chapel. I want to thank you all for attending the January 13th meeting and for submitting your lists of faith-related concerns that you find most troubling, most worrisome, and most likely responsible for the significant member declines in most of the mainline churches in recent years. On the positive side, I want to thank you for your constructive suggestions regarding the possible reversal of these trends. I will do my best to blend your statements into a consolidated "short List" that we can use as a syllabus for the next few meetings' discussions. I will try to get this summary into your hands a few days before our next meeting. Thank you, my friends,

Rich Burlingame

OUR WEBSITE CONTINUES TO CHANGE AND EVOLVE

We hope you go to our website, www.discipleschristian.org from time to time to see what's new! Our new Time and Talent Surveys are available there now along with the approved Growing Disciples Ministry Plan. A Prayer Page is being added soon, too. Naturally, when you need the most up-to-date calendar, the website is the only place to find it. So, when you are there next, take a look. Do you have ideas or suggestions that might improve what the world sees when they visit our website? Let us know! Call or email Toni in the church office, toni@discipleschristian.org with your ideas.

AN EMAIL PRAYER CHAIN

is a new ministry at Disciples. Those of you with email access may submit and receive prayer request via email. If you wish to become a part of the prayer chain, simply email amy@discipleschristian.org with a request to be added. Our telephone chain is still going strong as well. To request a prayer – or to join that chain – contact Donna Beckner.

SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE DINNER



Pastor Tim's Making Pancakes!

Come join Pastor Tim on Tuesday February 16th anytime between 5:30 and 7:30 p.m. for pancakes, sausages, fruit and drinks.

There will be games, crafts, Wii games as well as time to make our Week of Compassion change boxes.

Come when you can and stay as long as you can – pancakes will be served all evening.

Cost is \$4.50 per person with a maximum charge of \$15.00 per family.

Pastor Tim looks forward to sharing this pre-Lenten tradition with you. Your RSVP is appreciated. Complete a form on Sunday morning or call the church office or Pastor Tim to let us know you are coming!

WELCOME, WELCOME, WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

CHRIS ONTKO was born and raised in Lyndhurst and returned to buy a house in her old neighborhood. An Occupational Therapist, she works at South Pointe Hospital. Chris is single and has two "fur" children: a girl dog named Andy and a boy cat named Frasier. In



her spare time she loves to read, knit, garden, work out at the gym, ride her bicycle and play her hammered dulcimer. She's also learning to speak Slovak. Last year, Chris completed a 100 mile bike ride around Lake Tahoe to raise money for Leukemia and Lymphoma. During Lent, she is involved with the Cleveland Performing Arts Ministry that puts on "Tetelestai", a musical passion play that travels around to different churches. She says she visited our website one day and really liked what she saw so she decided to attend services one Sunday and was hooked. Chris says, "The people are so warm and welcoming. I love the diversity, the music and the types of outreach practiced here. I am looking forward to getting more involved as time goes on." We're looking forward to that, too, Chris!

ELAINE MATES is our "newest" member! Elaine Mates? YES! Elaine Mates! For the past 12 years Elaine has been actively dedicating her time and her talents to many of our ministries

including: our Sunday School, many youth activities and retreats, plenty of cooking and kitchen duties in our Fellowship Hall and last, but certainly not least, her current ministry – providing our Coffee Fellowship each week. But, she has done all this as a



"visitor". That all changed on January 11th at our Board Meeting. With Pastor Kris "officiating" – and about 20 other Disciples present – Elaine officially, became a member of Disciples Christian Church. She lives in South Euclid with her husband Patrick and three children, Charlotte, Conner and Gwen. She is employed by the South Euclid-Lyndhurst School System as an aide to Special Needs preschoolers. She enjoys cooking, gardening and animals. So, please, the next time you see Elaine, give her a hug or a handshake, or both,

and thank her for all the time, talent and dedication she has already shared with Disciples Christian Church over the last 12 years as a "visitor" and then . . . welcome her our "newest" member and tell her how much we look forward to our next 12 years in ministry together!

WE ARE SO BLESSED TO HAVE CHRIS AND ELAINE IN OUR COMMUNITY OF FAITH!

2009 FINAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS are ready and on a table at the back of the Sanctuary.

**On Saturday
March 27th
from 9:00 a.m. until Noon
we will spruce up
our church and its grounds
at our annual Pre-Easter**

SPRING SPA DAY!

All HELPING HANDS are welcome. Bring a friend, your children, your neighbors. The pay is great – the appreciation of all.

Bring buckets, cloths, cleaning supplies, rakes – whatever you think you'll need. If you don't have any of those things, come anyway and we will supply everything you need to help make our church SPARKLE!

**THE MORE HELP WE HAVE,
THE SOONER WE WILL BE DONE.**

We would appreciate
a few hours of your time
to help make our church SHINE!

Our Community

**THE 4TH ANNUAL HUNGER FOR MUSIC,
MUSIC FOR HUNGER**

event is coming in May. This is a fun family event that benefits the Heights Emergency Food Center. In addition to the house

band, Ray's Fabulous Out of Tuners, we will showcase some of our local talent. What can you do - sing, tap dance, play the spoons?? Get an act together and sign up with me by phone or by e-mail. Look for more information in the next Church Life.

Amy Campbell

MEET THE NEIGHBORS UPDATE:

Did you know that you can now indicate your intention to help by signing up on the bulletin board just inside our kitchen door? The next time you are in Fellowship Hall, stick your head into the kitchen to determine where help is needed! The February Meet the Neighbors Meal will be Thursday, February 25th and we're again making our (now) famous "Chicken and Rice" casserole and ***copies of the recipe are on the bulletin board in the kitchen!*** A local Girl Scout troop is "adopting" the dessert but Cathy still need cooks and – ALWAYS – clean up! For more information, give Cathy a call! And check the bulletin board to see how you can help!

BLESSINGS GARDEN

We are blessed to have the Heights Emergency Food center housed in our building. Disciples has always supported them with donations of food, time and money. But, we can always do more. We currently have an unutilized space outside the kitchen (the old playground site). The ultimate plan is to use this space as a vegetable garden. The produce would go to the Hunger Center to provide their clients fresh vegetables. Planting can't begin until further into the spring, but we can start planning and building now. If you are interested in the new Disciples Vegetable Garden, please let me know. This is a project that will get underway during this Lenten Season and will need many hands to get up and running.

THE HOMELESS STAND DOWN IS RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER!



InterAct
Cleveland's
Homeless

Stand Down: mobilizing Greater Cleveland's religious congregations, businesses, nonprofit organizations, and individuals to serve in a dignity affirming manner those who are experiencing homelessness. The event dates are Sunday, February 7; Sunday, February 28; and March 5, 2010 at the Cleveland Convention Center. The Homeless Stand Down (HSD) is more than a service event; it is a movement of hundreds of religiously diverse individuals and over 110 InterAct member congregations, organizations, school groups, and clubs stepping beyond obstacles that separate us and while working together towards the common goal of meeting the immediate, basic needs of our neighbors. Last year our collaborative efforts have cared for over 2,100 guests in THREE days of respect, respite, renewal, and reconnection. Here volunteers, community leaders, and social service agencies create a dignity affirming atmosphere where our guests visit a doctor, enjoy a warm meal, and are cared for mind, body, and spirit.

Disciples Christian is serving the Mid-Day Meal to about 700 people

from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. on February 28th at the Cleveland Convention Center, 500 Lakeside Avenue.

How can you help?

- We need 35 people to donate enough homemade meatloaf to serve 20 people;
- We need 150 dozen cookies and brownies
- We need lots of people to put on a RED shirt and Volunteer to:
 - Warm food in Kitchen
 - Serve Food
 - Serve Beverages
 - Help guests to seats
 - Clear Tables
 - Clean up

Please let us know how you will help! And, if you are interested in becoming involved in the Stand Down in other ways, volunteers are needed in order to provide dignity affirming service on Sunday, February 7th, Sunday, February 28th, and Friday, March 5th at the Cleveland Convention Center. Volunteers may register for volunteer training and sign up

for jobs at www.interactcleveland.org, where they will find full job and shift descriptions. For more information, please contact Mary (216-241-0230).

Bonnie Goldner and Amy Biscoff

Our World



HAITI UPDATE

If you've been watching the news, you've inevitably heard about the difficulties of getting aid, supplies, and medical care to those affected by

the earthquake in Haiti. While it is true that the delivery of aid has been hampered by many factors, including infrastructure-related challenges, Week of Compassion can assure you that aid is reaching many of those who need it.

Martin Coria, Church World Service Regional Coordinator for Latin America and the Caribbean, now based in the Dominican Republic and working closely with Servicio Social de Iglesias Dominicana (SSID), noted that with pre-positioned CWS kits and blankets, SSID was able to provide relief to the victims of Haiti's massive earthquake in the first twenty-four hours of the disaster. On Wednesday, January 13, SSID sent a flight with supplies to Port-au-Prince, and their staff was able to see the needs firsthand and quickly provide the most crucial supplies and assistance. Since then, CWS has established a storage and distribution center in the Dominican Border Town of Jimani, and has begun to provide assistance for Haitians who may try to enter the neighboring Dominican Republic. Thanks to you, we have helped make possible the following CWS aid and supplies:

† An air-freight arrived on January 22nd in Santo Domingo. The shipment contained 500 CWS blankets; 1,125 baby kits, 10,595 hygiene kits; 720 tubes of toothpaste; and 25 flashlights with batteries.

- † A second shipment, by ocean ship, is to arrive in Santo Domingo on February 2nd. It contains 500 light-weight CWS blankets; 13,325 hygiene kits; and 375 baby kits.
- † Another shipment is also expected to arrive in Santo Domingo on February 2nd with 2,950 blankets; 3,150 baby kits; and 7,215 hygiene kits.
- † An air shipment of 60 cartons of IMA World Health medicine boxes is expected to arrive in Santo Domingo January 26th. Each box contains enough essential medicines and medical supplies to treat the routine ailments of about 1,000 adults and children.
- † The Episcopal Church of Jimaní has given its building to be used as long as needed for doctors, rescue teams, visitors and volunteers. There are 30 mattresses and secure space to store supplies. This will serve as the hub for CWS and partner operations. A storage/supply center for 100 containers has been established.
- † A first aid clinic and emergency room has been located in the Christian School of Parisien, in Haiti, some 8 kilometers from the Haitian/DR border - about two hours from Port-au-Prince. There is space and capacity for no more than 30 patients at a time, and it is secure.
- † Food and supply distribution sites have been established across the border through Haitian churches and managed through different Haitian non-profit organizations and community leader associations. The hub of a five-center distribution network is located in Pétienville.
- † Disciple Don Tatlock, CWS Latin America and Caribbean program manager, continues work with distributing supplies to those in Port-au-Prince, noting the strength of CWS's already-existing relationships in helping to determine priorities for CWS distributions.
- † Likewise, through Church World Service's participation in the larger ACT Alliance international ecumenical partnership, Week of Compassion donations have gone to the construction

of temporary water systems, the provision of water purification materials, tents and food packages.

We continue to lift up the people of Haiti, all those on the ground working for the recovery effort, and all those who have offered their resources to aid with the relief effort. Week of Compassion is committed to Haiti for the long term. Once the news cameras are gone and the celebrity telethons are long forgotten, we will still be at work in Haiti. Thank you for making that possible. Donations can be made to Week of Compassion via a check to Disciples, marked WofC, or by going to their website: <http://www.weekofcompassion.org/haiti>

THANK YOU LINDA

and thanks to everyone who contributed hygiene or baby kits – or parts of them – to the people of Haiti. Done as a memorial to *Bonnie Goldner's* mother, *Mary Gillespie*, *Linda Walling* organized the collection of materials for, and preparation of completed kits that have now been shipped to a warehouse that will combine kits from across the country and ship them to Haiti! Each of you has made a difference in lives of people who so desperately need to be touched in Christ's name!

DO YOU NEED A LARGE PRINT VERSION OF THIS NEWSLETTER?

Let Toni know: toni@discipleschristian.org
or 216 382-5344.

NEWS FLASH !! THESE TWO ITEMS JUST IN!!

- 1. CYF MEMBERS! AN INVITATION TO "PASTA AND PEACEJAM MOVIE NIGHT"!!** Youth in grades 9 through 12 and their parents are invited to be here on February 11th at 6:30 p.m. Together, those interested will enjoy a good meal and learn more about PeaceJam.

- 2. CONGRATULATIONS TO THON BURLINGAME** who's "Miss Kitty" took First Place in the Cloth Doll Division, at The Lake Metroparks Farmpark Quilt Show which runs from February 12th through March 24th!



Easter 2009 at Disciples



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