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At Yellowstone and Mayfield

Volume 66 Number 1 • October, 2009

Growing Disciples

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Let's Grow Disciples!



Dear Disciples:

We had an active summer at Disciples Christian this year. It was a busy building with lots of ministry happening. That said, the pace has really picked up! I don't remember a time in my ministry when there were so many new initiatives going on, all at the same time. A brand new worship service, developing a Ministry Plan through Growing Disciples, the soon-to-be here stewardship campaign, and more.

For this column, I want to chat about the worship service – Connections – that began on September 20th.

Connections is casual and contemporary, and for now – it's offered monthly on the third Sunday. It is a *work in process*, and I could not be more excited about where we are in that process because – *drum roll please* – our Connections debut brought 65 persons into the sanctuary to worship God! Many attended both services. Several made Connections their one service. Visitors came. That, my Disciples friends, is a powerful combination.

As I've shared with our staff and others, Sunday was as good a first effort as we could have produced. We ought to feel really good. Are there all sorts of things we could have done differently? Yes. And, there are many changes to come. We featured music we either already knew or could learn quickly. We are most definitely *low-tech* at this point in our infancy. And, we have no intention of staying monthly forever. We will build from this early success. It is a start, and a fine one at that.

So, with too many thank you's to mention by name, I want to express my appreciation not only to those who worked to develop the service and those who attended – I want to thank even those who did not attend, but who supported us with your prayers and encouragement. Your support of this new adventure in our lives as Disciples is critical to its success.

There is no one perfect way to worship God. There is just our joyful noise, energy, talent, and commitment to excellence in multiple styles of worship. All that, together with the power of God's Holy Spirit working through and in us, is what will grow us as faithful and active Disciples.

May all we do give honor and glory to God. See you in church.

Blessings,

!

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pastor Tris". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the printed name.

Ourselves

Message and Music

at

Disciples Christian Church – 10:00 a.m.

October 4th: Called To Be One

Ephesians 2:19-22

World Communion Sunday

Featuring Danny Rectenzwald, classical guitar

October 11th: Taking the Leap

John 6:58-63, 66-68 and Mark 10:17-31

Featuring our Chancel Choir singing "Be Thou My Vision"

Let's Grow Disciples!

October 18th: Assuming the Leap

Mark 10:35-45

Music of French Composers



October 25th: Seeing More Clearly

Mark 10:46-52

Music of Johann Pachelbel and J.S. Bach

 **SIXTY-FIVE MEMBERS AND GUESTS** attended the first Connections Worship Service. We were

inspired by the upbeat music and the message of Lazarus' "next chance." Pastor Kris challenged us to live life to the fullest. Joining us at our new service is a wonderful way to make a connection with God, friends, and our church family. Many who attended asked if Connections will be held weekly. We want to attain that goal very, very soon. For the next few months, we have services scheduled as follows so please mark your calendars for 11:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary on . . .

- October 18th
- November 15th
- December 20th

Plan to bring a friend along! That is the best way to "Grow Disciples!" Let's grow the number from 65 – that's a good start but we want to touch many more people with God's message of love. If you want to participate as an usher, greeter, or in another way, it's not too late. Contact *Amy Campbell* to let her know how you'd like to help: amy@discipleschristian.org

ADULT EDUCATION: Our offerings for the next weeks continue to evolve but, on October 4th, your options are

- **In the Chapel** - *Robin Phillips* will give a presentation titled, "How Does the Early Christian Church Get to Cleveland, Ohio?"
- **In Pastor Kris's Office** - week two of Paul McElroy's study of the book of Esther.

Plan to grow in your discipleship by attending one of these classes scheduled during Disciples' Hour at 11:30 a.m. after worship.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1st, WE WILL OBSERVE ALL SAINTS DAY in worship.

This special Sunday is a day to recognize those who have died in our church community since November 2008. We will remember not only those who were members of our church, but persons in your extended families who died this past year. We encourage you to invite your families to join you in worship that morning. If you want your family included in this special memorial service, please let Toni know in the church office. We will provide more details about the service for you later this month.

Our Church

MUSIC MINISTRY NEWS: You may have noticed some new young faces in our music program this fall . . . Introducing Jake Andricks, our new tenor soloist and section leader. Jake hails from Bryan, Ohio and received his Bachelor of Arts degree in Applied Voice and Church Music from Indiana Wesleyan University in April of 2009. He is currently pursuing his Master of Music degree in Vocal Performance at the Cleveland Institute of Music, where he studies with Clifford Billions.

We also welcome Kellie Rumba as interim soprano soloist and section leader. Kellie is a Masters Degree candidate in voice at the Cleveland Institute of Music where she studies with Mary Schiller. She will serve us this semester while our regular soprano soloist, Marla Berg, is on a short sabbatical as she pursues some additional teaching opportunities.

The relationship between Disciples Christian Church and the Cleveland Institute of Music has deepened this semester with several students serving this congregation. Marisa Buchheit continues to sing with our Chancel Choir as intern soprano, and is joined by Raymond Irwin

who joins our Chancel Choir as tenor section intern. At our new Connections service Jake Andricks participates as our lead vocalist and is joined by Danny Rectenwald, a graduate student studying classical guitar and Dylan Moffit, a Bachelors degree student in percussion. These students love to give of their talents to such an appreciative congregation and we welcome them all to our music program!

Moderator's Message

Sue's News

What difference does church make in your life? Why do you choose to come to Disciples Christian Church? Personally, I have a life-long affinity with the Christian Church, but after attending here, I chose to come back because of the people here. Like *Pastor Tim* said in his Young Disciples talk on a recent Sunday, we are family. We support each other, laugh together, and cry together. We care for each other and we care for others in our community and the world.

Our church makes a difference in many lives, inside our congregation and outside as well. Think about that difference and how you can help continue that support and keep it growing. You'll see evidence of the real change Disciples Christian Church has made in individual lives in the coming month.

As autumn energizes the season with cooler weather and vibrant color in the landscape, may we continue to energize our church and find ways to serve and share our blessings and God's love with others.

Thank you to the many people who have given time and talent to the work we do at DCC. Without you, we could not make a difference in the lives of so many.

Sue Curtis

THE CONNECTIONS MUSIC

CONNECTION: Many thanks to all of the congregants who helped to form the new contemporary music ensemble that set such a

wonderful tone at our first Connections worship service. By all accounts it was a complete success. Thanks!!! Do **YOU** like contemporary Christian music? Do **YOU** like to sing? Please consider joining us as our ensemble and worship service grows. When you sing you pray twice! Questions? Call *Bill or Susan Schoeffler* at (216) 482-7435.

ANNUAL REPORTS are now available. You can pick up a hard copy on the desk in the Library or request one via email by contacting toni@discipleschristian.org.

WOMEN MEMBERS AND VISITORS are invited to join the CWF (Christian Women's Fellowship) on Wednesday, October 21st at noon when their program will be, "A Conversation with Kristine". The gathering will be held at *Pastor Kris'* home located at 1876 Langerdale in South Euclid. Please bring along a sandwich – soup and a beverage will be provided. Watch for sign up sheets in Fellowship Hall when October begins!

FROM PASTOR TIM'S LAPTOP

I love September! It's when all of the kids come back from their summer vacations and start hanging around church again. I know I am biased but I think kids and youth are the best part of church. *Pastor Kris* asked me after Chautauqua how I felt about the youth group and I just smiled and said how can you not like them. What cool group of kids. That said we need some help, I would like to ask you to think about volunteering to be a Youth sponsor. Youth sponsors are those people God is calling to help us run our youth events and to get to know the youth better. The only qualification to being a youth sponsor is that you love teenagers. You don't have to be a parent or related to one and in fact two major surveys about successful teen (Exemplary Youth Ministry Study, Search Institute 40 Factors study) suggest to raise healthy youth they need positive adult connections with their

community! Want to help and learn more contact me, *Pastor Tim*.

One of the exciting things about our youth group is that we have both a CYF group and a new Chi-Rho group. This year's Chi-Rho kids are primarily made up of sixth graders who are ready to move out of the little kid's world and grow up! One of their first projects is to create a Chi-Rho room and they need your help. We are asking for donations to help us. Our themes for the room are peace, worship, community and God – what wonderful themes for them to pick! If you have some old chairs, couches, or bean bag chairs you would like to donate to Chi-Rho let us know. We also are also looking for a disco ball, lava lamps, end tables and glow in the dark stickers. Lastly we will need Kilz and paint donations. Please contact *Pastor Tim* if you have anything you would like to donate.

We are very proud of our youth involvement at Disciples. I couldn't help but notice that on September 20th alone youth sang at Connections, ran sound for both services and helped serve communion. Let us keep encouraging them in any way we can.

Pastor Tim

P.S. Youth: look for information coming your way about Apple picking, Cosmic evening, and Chi-Rho decorating day.

WE HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO TOUR FIVE LOCAL LANDMARK CHURCHES ON OCTOBER 31ST

Our Adult Education Ministry team leaders, *Kim Ehrlich* and *Mary Griffith*, are working with JKL Tours on the trip that will: cost \$55 per person, leave our parking lot at 7:45 a.m., return at about 4:30 p.m., and include lunch at the Chop House. Members of Disciples, visitors, friends, relatives, and neighbors are all invited – this event is open to everyone! We need a minimum of 35 people so it is imperative that you make a reservation quickly – you may call the office or register during coffee fellowship.

SPOOKTACULAR – Come one come all! Friday, October 30th we will celebrate Halloween a day early with food, fun, remembrance and sweets. Some of your old favorites are back: cupcake making, Halloween pictures, and a treasure hunt. New this year will be spooky story time and a remembrance tree. Doors will open at 5:00 p.m. and dinner will be served at 5:30. Come see for yourself what wonderful fun is planned for this evening. Volunteers are needed for Spooktacular – if you can help, please contact either *Pastor Tim, Gail Ritchey, Carol Reed, the McFarlins or the Keresmans* if you can help.

FELLOWSHIP has, as it tells us in the book of Acts, always been an important part of Christian community. Our most regular time together is our “Fellowship Time” each Sunday morning at 11:15 a.m. Gathering for coffee, doughnuts, and conversation with fellow Disciples is a great way to end our time of worship before we go out into the world to begin another week. While many have contributed to making that gathering time possible, we are very grateful that *Elaine Mates* feels called to continue in her role as the leader of that ministry. The dilemma she faces is that the cost to provide doughnuts and coffee each week averages \$40 while our free-will offering basket averages only \$20 per week. That shortfall cannot be covered with the \$800 budgeted for that ministry each year. Elaine plans to do a survey to determine what donuts people like/dislike and to learn if others have any ideas for improvement of our current coffee fellowship process. Watch for that survey – and consider a larger “donation” next Sunday as you enjoy your coffee!

JOIN OUR BOOK CLUB ON TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13TH AT 7:00 P.M. TO DISCUSS *The Man Time Forgot* by Isaih Wilner. Although Henry Luce is celebrated as the founder of Time magazine, it was actually the brainchild of another man, Briton Hadden, who has been deliberately

written out of the magazine's history according to Wilner. Luce and Hadden met at prep school, where, as editors of the newspaper, they began a rivalry of competitive ideas on news delivery that continued when they both went to Yale, sparking a lifetime of tension over competition and collaboration. When they were 25, they joined up to realize Hadden's dream, a magazine that condensed the national news of the day in a readable style. Hadden, from a wealthy family, was outgoing and audacious. Luce, from a family of missionaries, was brilliant but circumspect. Luce could never come out of Hadden's shadow. When his more celebrated partner died at 31, Luce immediately began to erase Hadden's legacy. With access to the Time archives, unpublished interviews, and various correspondence, Wilner offers the excitement of a new media enterprise launched in the Roaring Twenties by two fascinating figures. Join us for a conversation about this book!

MUGS WITH DISCIPLES LOGO ARE NOW AVAILABLE FOR SALE. Our Membership Ministry Team has been hard at work on a wide variety of ministries. One includes providing a gift of a Disciples' coffee mug to new members of our church. There was so much positive reaction to the mugs, the Membership Ministry has decided to make them available for purchase at \$5.00 each. Proceeds from that sale will go back into the Team's budget or may be used to support other needs. You can purchase them from *Trish Burton* during Fellowship Times or in the office during normal office hours.

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS:

- † *Vi Radomilovich*, Hillcrest Hospital, pneumonia
- † *Bev Troha*, home after being released from Hanna House rehab
- † *Nancy Kidd*, Home Hospice Care
- † *Barbara Harold*, released from Hillcrest Hospital, back at Homewood
- † *JoAnne Humbert*, chemotherapy

Our Community

- † Rick and David Bowen, prayers of gratitude for a successful stem cell transplant; prayers for Rick during the critical first month following his transplant
- † *Members at home: Barbara Seaver, Summerville of Mentor; Barbara Harold, Homewood Residence in Richmond Heights; Margaret Beer, Broadview Manor; Ella Bergeon, home; Louise Consilio, home; Marian Green, Breckinridge; Marjia Hehr, home; Violet Radomilovich, home; Frank and Averna Jayne, The Fairways; Barbara Ross, Grande Pointe, Lois Valentine, home.*

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY . . . Did you know that disciples has an automated external defibrillator (AED)? A defibrillator is used to restart a normal heart rhythm in the event of cardiac arrest. An AED can be used by both professionals and lay people with proper training. The defibrillator is located in a cabinet on the wall leading to Fellowship Hall. The cabinet is not locked, however, a loud alarm sounds when the door is opened to alert others in the building that an emergency is occurring. If an emergency occurs and the AED is needed, someone should be directed to retrieve it. Inside the AED case are a pair of scissors (to remove clothing, if required) and a plastic face shield, to use if mouth to mouth resuscitation is necessary.

Mary Griffith

HOW MANY SHOPPING DAYS UNTIL CHRISTMAS? NOT ENOUGH! CWF can help! Stop by their table in Fellowship Hall on Sunday to look at their extensive list of available gift cards! When you purchase gift cards through CWF, proceeds go to a variety of projects within our church as well as to camping scholarships for our youth. It is a win/win: you have the convenience of shopping in the Fellowship Hall and your spending benefits all of us. For information call or email *Donna Beckner* (donna@discipleschristian.org).

JESUS SAID, *“When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame and the blind. And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous”* Luke 14:12-14

COMMUNITY MEALS PLANNED THROUGH YEAR’S END! Watch for a sign-up sheet in the kitchen for our Meet the Neighbors Community Meals on Thursdays, October 29th, November 19th and December 17th (note the date adjustments – due to holidays).

Now, you can plan ahead to be part of this special ministry. We *always* need people to come and eat with us – and with our neighbors – as well as to help with Set-Up (3:00), Serving (5:00) and Clean-Up (6:00). You’ll also be able to volunteer on this sheet to contribute food towards the meal. So, rather than utilizing a bulletin sign up sheet week after week, let’s save some trees! Stop by the kitchen and help us all plan ahead, so we can continue to welcome our neighbors into our church home.

Cathy Ausperk

FROM OUR OUTREACH MINISTRY TEAM:

- ***IT’S “INTERFAITH HOSPITALITY NETWORK TIME”*** - The mission of the IHN is to provide compassionate care to homeless families, alleviate the trauma of homelessness and assist families in securing a stable home. This mission is accomplished by providing a caring, dignified environment of overnight hospitality in a church or synagogue facility, and providing supportive services to help families become self-sufficient. IHN guests are sheltered and cared for each evening by congregational

volunteers. Guests stay for a week at each host congregation, arriving at 5:30p.m. and leaving at 7:00 a.m. Disciples Christian Church will be serving home-cooked dinners and spending time with guests simply hanging out, helping with homework, playing games, etc. from 5:30 to 9:00 p.m. at Heights Christian Church on Tuesday October 6th and Wednesday, October 7th. Each volunteer who will be with guests is asked to view a thirty minute video explaining the program at a time to be arranged. To learn more go to www.ihncleveland.org. There are many ways to help and you can sign up for any/all in a Sunday bulletin insert or by calling the church office:

- o ***On Location at Heights Christian Church*** on either Tuesday or Wednesday you can serve dinner and eat with Guests from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m.; interact with guests by playing games, reading, helping with homework, etc. from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.; spend the night (in your own room) with guests from 9:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m.
- o ***From my home I will help prepare part of a meal to be served to guests:*** a main course/meat dish; a vegetable; a salad; rolls; and/or dessert.
- ***JOIN US AS WE MEET*** on Sunday, October 4th after Disciples Hour.
- ***THE NEXT HOMELESS STAND DOWN*** is scheduled for next February 15th – but InterAct Cleveland is not on vacation between now and then – check out their website at www.interactcleveland.org!

THE HEIGHTS EMERGENCY FOOD CENTER AND THE HEIGHTS YOUTH THEATRE ARE WORKING TOGETHER to benefit the clients of the Hunger Center (as well as to benefit you)! The Youth Theatre's next production is "Oliver" and it opens on October 23rd. They have set aside the November 7th performance, Saturday, 2:00 p.m. matinee, as a day to collect food for HEFC. Flyers, listing HEFC's most needed items, will be in the

programs for all of the performances leading up to that date. So how do we benefit, too? If you go to the November 7th show and identify yourself as a member of Disciples that day, you will get \$1 off of your ticket price. The Heights Youth Theatre performances are at Wiley Middle School, 2181 Miramar Boulevard, and the box office opens for matinees at 1:15 p.m. For more information, call 216-409-1034 or go to www.heightsyouththeatre.org.

SPEAKING OF HEFC'S MOST NEEDED ITEMS THIS MONTH, they are:

- Baby foods and formula;
- Soup – dried or canned;
- Canned vegetables, fruits, and beans;
- Milk – powdered or canned;
- Juices of any kind;
- Tuna;
- Peanut butter and jelly;
- Paper products;
- Cleaning products;
- Personal hygiene items for women.

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS is holding a Candidates' Night for Cleveland Heights and University Heights on Thursday, October 8th, 7:00 p.m. at Cleveland Heights Community Center. All are welcome.

UPCaM – United Protestant Campus Ministries – will hold their Annual Auction and Dinner on Saturday, November 7th at the Cleveland Skating Club. For more information or to reserve a table, call 216-421-9614.

Our World

HOMELESS AND DIRECTIONLESS FIND SUPPORT

*God is our refuge
and strength,
a very present help
in trouble.
Psalm 46:1*

St John's Center in Northern Sri Lanka, which is part of Global Ministries' partner the Church of the



American Ceylon Mission, is working with twelve refugee camps which have been home to thousands displaced from their homes due to civil war. St John's has nineteen volunteers, eleven pastors, one doctor and two nurses who are working tirelessly among the camps in a systematic and coordinated way offering subsistence food, child care centers, trauma counseling, medical assistance, clean water and sanitation.

Recently, about three months after the end of the civil war, the Sri Lankan government decided to send 5000 refugees from the outer camps back to their own villages. St John's received about 200 and gave them packages of food and basic clothes to start their new lives. Since their homes were destroyed they will go to live with relatives. The elderly were also released, many have no where to go. St John's is working to accommodate these elders on a temporary basis in elderly facilities.

Over 300,000 people are still in the camps. About 40% of the displaced are children - many of whom are unaccompanied by family members. Their care is the subject of conversations between the government, social agencies and faith groups like St. John's.

'Thank you very sincerely for your timely support and prayers in taking care of the refugees. Please uphold our ministry in your thoughts and prayers.'

Rev. Dr. S. Jeyanesan is Chair of CACM, and Project Director of St John's and wrote this letter to James Vijayakumar, Global Ministries Southern Asia Area Executive.

WEEK OF COMPASSION RESPONDS TO FLOODING IN

GEORGIA - Ray Miles, Regional Minister of the Christian Church in Georgia, writes, "What started as an inconvenience and a topic of conversation has escalated in many parts of Georgia to a natural disaster." Homes have been destroyed and lives lost to the torrential rains. We don't know of



any Disciples churches damaged, though some members of Disciples congregations have been significantly affected. Week of Compassion is sending a 'solidarity grant' to the Christian Church in Georgia. WoC has also been in touch with the regional ministers and local church pastors in several other states that experienced flooding over the weekend, and so far, there are no reports of other Disciples congregations or members affected.

Floods in Mauritania: Through our partnership with ACT international, Week of Compassion is responding to floods caused by an overly abundant rainy season in Mauritania. A country that normally receives very little and scattered rains, Mauritania has this season been "blessed" by more rains than usual. This has created serious population displacements. The response to this emergency has been slow, due to the twin assumptions that the first rains were a freak event and the situation would be under control quickly. However, more rains have aggravated the situation, and some 3700 people have been camping in provisional shelters on higher ground. Their neighborhoods have been flooded, and it is not likely that they will return soon because rains continue to fall. They have appealed for immediate assistance with food, water, shelter and sanitation. The emergency response is scaling up at this stage and will likely include the provision of clean drinking water through tankering, community mobilization around the management of water points, cleaning and disinfection of toilet areas, and removal of garbage. ACT also plans to assist with mosquito control.

Tropical Storm Jimena: On September 2nd and 3rd, Tropical Storm Jimena hit Western Mexico. Two hundred thousand people were affected by the flood. Water, in some places reaching more than ten feet, destroyed houses and bridges, knocked train cars off the railroad, and damaged electrical delivery and countless pieces of personal property. Week of Compassion has sent a solidarity grant to the Christian Congregational Churches of Mexico to support the efforts of the local

congregation of Empalme. The Church in Empalme will collect food, used clothes and shoes, furniture and appliances for the poor families.

Gifts for all these concerns and other needs around the world are always welcome. Simply write a check to Disciples Christian Church and mark "Week of Compassion" in the memo section – you may even direct it to a special area of concern.



Let's Grow Disciples!

How can we grow "ourselves"? How about one step at a time?? How about helping at one of our upcoming community meals?? It's not only good stewardship of your time - you may well change someone's life for the better!

Let's Grow!!

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to
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