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Inside:

- Disciples' Hours in November
- Music Ministry Opportunities
- Welcome Elie McBride!
- Stewardship Ministry update
- It's Journey Time!
- CWF Veteran's Day Potluck
- Meet the Neighbors' Holiday Dates

Church Life

At Yellowstone and Mayfield

Volume 66 Number 2 • November, 2009

Worship in November at Disciples

November 1st – 10:00 a.m.

Psalm 56 selected verses, Isaiah 25:1-9

A Bottle of Tears

Featuring music of Copland and Vaughn Williams

November 8th – 10:00 a.m.

Mark 12:38-44

In All Things Moderation?

Music of Rheinberger and 19th-century Friends

November 15th – 10:00 a.m.

2 Corinthians 5:16-17

I Can Only Imagine

*Message and Music featuring tenor Jake Andricks
singing "I Can Only Imagine"*

Presentation of new video about Disciples Christian Church

11:30 a.m.

Casual and
Contemporary



November 22nd – 10:00 a.m.

Matthew 6:25-33

Give Thanks!

*Music featuring our Chancel Choir
singing music for Thanksgiving*

*Gathering of 2010 Commitment Cards
Celebration of our Generous Stewardship*

Let's Grow Disciples!



Dear Disciples:

When Christian Women's Fellowship group met at our home recently for lunch, October's weather not only cooperated – it was lovely enough that we could spend the entire time outdoors on our deck! One of the joys for David and me in moving to Cleveland was finding our house that is so perfect for us. It has just the right amount of space, and the location couldn't be better. It allows David good access to his work commute, and it allows me to get to wherever my congregation needs me to be – very quickly!

It is also special sanctuary because of the mature trees that grace our yard and the woods behind us. For the last several weeks though, the acorns falling from the huge oak trees have seemed a nuisance. They fall so hard on the roof that the noise wakes us up at night, and they fall so hard on the deck that I hope no one gets injured! The **impact** is great for something so small.

This morning I woke up thinking about Disciples' work as I usually do. As I was thinking, I heard more acorns falling. There's a connection, I thought! It's all about the **impact**. I remembered the testimonials I've heard in worship the past two weeks. Both had to do with painful (and very different) *impacts* – the closing of a beloved church and the need to find another to replace it, and the death of a beloved partner. And, both testimonials had to do with next steps taken that led to very positive **impacts** – finding a church home, serving in that church, and changed lives.

I went out on the deck this morning – another very beautiful October day – and watched as those acorns fell and hit. I realized the impact this morning not as an irritant. Instead, I looked up to see from where they fell. I saw a majestic and strong, beautiful and deep-rooted oak tree, and I saw the possibilities of new life from those tiny little acorns.

We are in the midst of our annual campaign to fund our church budget. Soon you'll receive a pledge card in the mail. I certainly hope you don't see it as nuisance and irritant! I hope you see it as opportunity for **impacting** more lives – including your own.

See you in church,

Growing Disciples


Ourselves. Our Church. Our Community. Our World.

Ourselves

ADULT EDUCATION DURING DISCIPLES HOUR IN NOVEMBER

- **November 1st** – *Dr. George Matejka* completes his two week presentation entitled “Pearls and Perils of Paul’s Letters” in the Chapel. Professor Matejka has chaired the Philosophy Department at Ursuline College since 1999. He holds the Ph.D. in Philosophy from Duquesne University and a Licentiate in Sacred Theology with a Specialization in Biblical Studies from the Gregorian University, Rome, Italy. !
- **November 8th** – Join us in the Chapel for a “Conversation with *Randy Wicks* and the Stewardship Team” that will center on Disciples’ 2010 budget as it is predicted to look.
- **November 15th** – In lieu of Disciples’ Hour, we will gather in the Sanctuary for our November Connections worship.
- **November 22nd** – During Disciples’ Hour, we will all gather in Fellowship Hall to celebrate our lives as growing disciples and generous stewards following the gathering of our 2010 commitments during 10:00 worship. A light lunch will be served and followed by one of our Youth’s famous dessert raffles!
- **November 29th** – Because it is Thanksgiving weekend, there will be no Disciples’ Hour this week.

I CAN ONLY IMAGINE

At Connections worship on Sunday, October 18th, the  64 people in attendance watched the new Disciples Christian Church video about how lives are

being changed here. The Holy Spirit is at work in this congregation - feeding our Cleveland Heights neighbors, lending a hand to our friends from Bhutan and in countless other ways.

If you haven't seen the video yet, don't worry, there will be other opportunities. If you haven't been to a Connections worship service yet, I encourage you to give it a try. Come in comfy clothes or jeans and be prepared to worship in an intimate and casual setting. You will walk away revived and refreshed and ready to imagine countless more ways for Disciples to minister to the people in our building, our neighborhood and the world.

Amy Campbell, Creative Ministries Director

Our Church

MUSIC MINISTRIES AT DISCIPLES CHRISTIAN CHURCH

The music program at Disciples Christian Church invites **you** to consider participating in one of our enjoyable and rewarding music ministry opportunities. There are places available for people of all ages and musical training. Below is a list of our ministries along with rehearsal times and service schedules:

- ♪ **Chancel Choir:** Rehearses Thursdays from 7:30-9:30 p.m. in the church; arrives Sunday mornings at 9:00 a.m. for warm-up and sings at 10:00 a.m. service.
- ♪ **Contemporary Ensemble:** Rehearses two Thursday evenings each month from 6-7 p.m. and sings the third Sunday of each month arriving at 11:00 a.m. for the 11:30 a.m. *Connections* service.
- ♪ **Children's Choir:** Meets Sundays from 11:30-11:45 a.m.

🎵 **Bell Choir:** Currently forming! Call for information.

🎵 **Contemporary Youth Ensemble:** Meets Sundays from 11:45-12:15 p.m. and participates in the *Connections* Contemporary worship service the third Sunday of each month at 11:30 a.m.

🎵 **Questions about any of these musical opportunities?** Call our Music Directors: *William and Susan Schoeffler* at (216) 482-7435.

Disciples Christian Church and the Cleveland Institute of Music

Disciples Christian Church has been enjoying the talents of many young musicians from the Cleveland Institute of Music in both our Traditional and Contemporary worship services this fall. We have filled our tenor soloist position in the Chancel Choir with *Jake Andricks*, graduate student at CIM, and have enjoyed his talents as a vital part of our new Connections worship as well. *Kellie Rumba*, soprano at CIM, has been ably filling in as soprano soloist while *Marla Berg* is on temporary leave. In addition, both *Marisa Buchheit* and *Raymond Irwin* have benefitted from the mentoring of our established church choir members who have generously welcomed them. At Connections, in addition to *Jake*, we have heard the talents of *Dylan Moffitt*, percussion, and *Danny Rectenwald*, guitar. It has been a joy to see them interact with our youngest Disciples – at our October Connections worship, *Dylan* involved *Evan Ritchey* and *Patrick Reed* in jangling some of the unique percussion instruments that *Dylan* brings with him. All the students comment on the warmth, friendship and faith-filled atmosphere they have found here at Disciples!

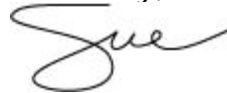
MODERATOR'S MESSAGE

Sue's News

The importance of church is evident in how often it is mentioned in the Bible. Jesus stated that on Peter, he would build His church. (Matthew 15:18) Throughout the

New Testament, Paul consistently encouraged the early Christians to work together to spread the gospel of Christ Jesus. How important is Disciples Christian Church in your life? During the next month, we will hear a few of the many stories behind what our church has meant in the lives of fellow members. These stories remind us of the difference our church makes in the lives of real people. Some years ago, a woman was drawn to this congregation. Her marriage of 17 years was falling apart, she had not lived in the Cleveland area long enough to know anyone and was depressed, confused, and yes . . . scared. Having attended this church once with her in-laws who were visiting for Easter, she found herself coming back to this place of worship week after week. It was a refuge, a place of peace, music, and joy. This person who came here feeling isolated and lonely discovered a church family of warm, friendly people. It was the lifeline she needed to find strength in fellowship, a renewed faith in God, and hope for a bright future.

This is my story, what is yours?
Gratefully,



WELCOME ELIE!

Please welcome *Elie McBride* into our church family! *Elie* has been visiting our church for about 2½ years, since she moved into her apartment in Cleveland Heights. She has four children, three girls and a boy. Since she can no longer drive, she was hoping to find a church with-in walking distance. "I was thrilled to find a church so close and so filled with warm loving people." We are pleased that she has found us and has made our church her new church home. She had been a member of her previous church since the age of six and was very active in that



congregation throughout her adult life. She did quite a bit of work in the youth ministry of her former church.

For many years, beginning in her teens, Elie was active in the Civil Rights Movement. Currently she is heading up a drive to find people to knit baby caps for infants in Rwanda. Doctors in Rwanda discovered that a great many of the infants were suffering from hypothermia and could benefit from caps for their heads. If you can knit, talk to *Elie*. She'll put you to work helping these infants and children!

Elie says that she is also pleased and excited at the prospect of helping the Bhutanese refugees settle into their new homes in the United States. Our efforts and many ministries at Disciples Christian Church have greatly impressed her and we are delighted that she now calls Disciples home.

Trish Burton,

Member Ministry Team Leader

ELDER'S NOTES

An Elder's meeting was held on Tuesday, October 6th. *Lauren Wicks* led a brainstorming session in which we discussed ways to improve the role of the Elder in today's church. We discussed forming Elder Circles which would include: Visiting; Care; Prayer; and Written Communication (cards etc.). Our next formal Elders' Meeting will be held on December 20th after the Connections Service. Elders will meet during lunch and continue our discussion. Look for more details in the next newsletter.

FROM PASTOR TIM'S COMPUTER

October brought some exciting new developments in the life of Disciples Christian Church starting with our New Young Disciples' Hour after the 10:00 worship service. The schedule for this program affects all of our young disciples. At 11:00 a.m., or right after worship has ended, the CYF kids (those 8th – 12th grades) will meet down in the youth room for a time of creativity in spiritual formation at the high school level. This group will meet until 12:15 p.m. after

which they can join the *Schoefflers* to learn to sing and play music for Connections worship. During the 11:00–11:30 a.m. time slot, children in grades Kindergarten to 5 and those in 6 and 7 will be able to join their families for donuts. At 11:30 a.m., those in Kindergarten through 5th grade can join the *Schoefflers* for our Children's Choir while the Chi Rho kids, those 6th and 7th grades, can go to the lower level of Oakridge for a project that will help grow the kingdom of God. At 11:45, the younger children will join *Pastor Tim* and crew downstairs in Oakridge while the Chi Rho kids can join the CYF youth in learning to sing and play Connections music. All children will be dismissed at the end of Disciples hour. Do you want to be part of the New Young Disciples Hour? Perhaps you have a talent or a story to tell – if so – please contact *Pastor Tim*.

Also starting this month is our Peace Jam club for youth. This is tentatively scheduled for one night a month. Each gathering will include a fun activity like bowling, tubing, or a game night followed by a Peace Jam club meeting. We encourage all of our CYF students to get involved and to bring their friends as this is an open event. Peace Jam club will include a trip in April to meet with a Nobel Peace Laureate. Those who continue with the Call to Action project next summer will also attend the Great Lakes Jam Slam in the fall. What a great way to follow the Way of Christ and to build your college resume at the same time. Be sure to contact *Pastor Tim* or *Amy Biscoff* if you would like to be involved as a sponsor, driver, or student participant.

Finally, in November our youth are asking you to participate in a desert raffle. On November 22nd please bring in one of your favorite desserts to donate - and then buy raffle tickets for someone else's specialty. All proceeds will go towards decorating our Chi Rho room and the start of our Peace Jam club. Please sign your dessert up in the fellowship hall.

Pastor Tim

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS:

- † The Family of *Nancy Kidd* – husband *Ed*, daughters *Tracy* and *Jennifer*, on *Nancy's* death. Her life will be celebrated at a memorial service at Disciples on Saturday, October 31st at 11:00 a.m.
- † *Al Kean*, recovering from heart attack
- † The *Goldner* family following the death of *Bonnie's* father, *Walter Gillespie* – particularly her mother, *Mary*
- † *Trish Burton*, recovering from surgery
- † *Chris Ladaika*, recovering from surgery
- † *Vi Radomilovich*, Hillcrest Hospital
- † *Mary Jane Moran*, Hanna House following surgery
- † *JoAnne Humbert*, chemotherapy
- † *Elsie Hoffacker*, cancer, sister-in-law of *Marguerite Gilbert*
- † *Don Ehrlich*, on assignment in Mexico
- † *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; *Frank and Averna Jayne*, The Fairways; *Barbara Ross*, Grande Pointe, *Lois Valentine*, home.

It's coming . . . It's coming . . . IT'S HERE!!

It always seems too early to be making this announcement, but summer has flown by as it always does and Halloween has ended. The season has come for pumpkin pie, fires in the fireplace and . . . Journey to Bethlehem sign-ups! That's right, Journey to Bethlehem is only six Sundays away on December 13th, so its time to get started.

Please stop by the Journey to Bethlehem table to sign up for your part. *We would so appreciate it if you could do it as soon as possible* to limit the number of phone calls we need to make. Remember there is no need to worry about giving others a chance to pick first, just put your name under the "where needed most" category if you don't have a preference.

And *feel free to ask friends or relatives if they would like to join us.* It's a great way to do something together as an extended family!

Here is how else you can help:

- ✳ Keep an eye out for babies! The ideal candidates would be one to three months old on December 13th. Participants receive a framed photo of themselves as the Holy family as our thank you.
- ✳ We could use a little more carpet to go under the hay. Let us know if you will be ripping any up in the near future. (Please call *Lauren Wicks* or the *Ritcheys* before bringing it in).
- ✳ Pick up posters and/or postcards to help get the word out. An email version of the postcard will be available for sending in mid November.

FROM PASTOR TIM:

CAN YOU HELP?

- Teach our 2nd/3rd grade Sunday School during November?
- Work with our children during our new Young Disciples' Hour?
- If your answer is yes to any/all of the above, please give *Pastor Tim* a call!

SALUTE TO DISCIPLES CHRISTIAN CHURCH VETERANS POTLUCK

Christian Women's Fellowship is hostessing the *Second Annual Salute to Disciples Christian Church Veterans Potluck* on Wednesday, November 11th at 6:30 p.m. All veterans from any war are invited as are their wives or widows. We would love to hear our vets tell us about their war experiences. We also would welcome remarks from the "gals" who waited for their soldiers to come home. It would be interesting to hear what our ladies did while their husbands were away. This event is open to everyone so plan to be a part of honoring our veterans! Please bring a dish to share and join us for food and fellowship. Watch Sunday bulletins for more information.

WANT TO BE A "PROPPETEER?"

A what?? Our *No Strings Attached* Puppet Ministry is working on a completely new Advent and Christmas program. They are looking for individuals who would like to assist us in designing and creating scenery and *props* in time for Advent I, November 29th. So, whether or not you want to be a "puppet"eer, being a "prop"peteer" may be the perfect fit for your talents! And, if you would like to be one of the puppeteers and are in fifth grade or older, please join the No Strings Attached team every Monday from 7:00 until 8:30 p.m. in the puppet room! For more information about props and puppets, please contact *Dale and Karen Schmauder*, 440-442-6635.

MEN OF DISCIPLES

The next meeting will be on Wednesday, November 18th at 7:30 p.m. in the Chapel. You are urged to read chapters four, five and six in Josh McDowell's *More Than a Carpenter* for this meeting's discussions. The study topics are:

1. Science: Contributions to and Criticism of Our Faith;
2. The New Atheists: Challenges and Rebuttals;
3. Are the Bible Records Reliable?

These topics are highly relevant to the church's need to confront declining membership in all denominations across America. The evening's facilitator is *Rich Burlingame*.

THE NOVEMBER MEETING OF THE DISCIPLES BOOK CLUB

will be held in the Chapel on Tuesday, November 10th at 7:00 p.m. We will discuss *The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo* by Stieg Larsson. His first murder mystery has been a smash hit throughout Europe since its 2005 publication in the author's native Sweden, and has now become a bestseller in the U.S. as well. But the bitter twist in Larsson's success story is that he didn't live to see any of his books published. He died of a heart attack just after he delivered the manuscripts for this book and the two that follow. When the

most shocking corpse in the drawing room turns out to be the 50 year old author's, the thrills of crime fiction can take a melancholy turn. *The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo* is a murder mystery, family saga, love story, and a tale of financial intrigue wrapped into one satisfyingly complex and entertainingly atmospheric novel.

DO YOU HAVE ONE OF OUR NEW DISCIPLES' MUGS YET??

Our Membership Ministry Team is hard at work on a wide variety of new and expanded 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 Team is making them available at a cost \$5.00 each. Proceeds will go back into the Team's budget or may be used to support other ministries. You can buy one from *Trish Burton* during Fellowship Times or in the office during normal office hours. And keep your eyes and ears open after Christmas for information on another new ministry of the Membership Team: Disciples' Dinners.

KEEPING UP WITH FRIENDS . . .

- *Sue Curtis* is featured in a recently published book entitled *Digital Photography Bucket List – 100 Great Digital Photos You Must Take Before You Die*. A picture of Sue accompanies an article about her featured photograph, "Terminal Tower Above the Clouds". If you have an opportunity to see a copy of the book, take the time to find Sue's photo – it is breathtaking!
- The *Rev. Dr. Jennifer Cook* has been called as Senior Pastor at Thompson Congregational Church in Connecticut. *Jenny and Brian's* son, *Oliver*, was married, with his mother officiating, to *Morgan Taylor* on October 24th in South Berwick, Maine. The couple will reside in Massachusetts.
- The *Rev. Dr. A. Houston Bowers* and his wife, *Mary*, have relocated temporarily to Fort Worth, Texas where he is

serving as transitional Senior Pastor at University Christian Church

THE COUNTDOWN BEGINS – HOW MANY SHOPPING DAYS UNTIL CHRISTMAS??

What to give your teenage granddaughter? What does an eight year old boy really want? How can one remember a dear neighbor? One answer is always “right” – a gift card! Stop by the CWF table immediately inside Fellowship Hall on Sunday’s during Fellowship Time to see 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. CWF will place their final order before Christmas on December 13th for delivery on December 20th. For information call or email *Donna Beckner* (donna@discipleschristian.org).

Our Community

MEET THE NEIGHBORS DURING THE HOLIDAYS!

Our “Meet the Neighbors” Community Meals in November and December will be moved up a week due to the holidays. The meals will be held on Thursday, November 19th, and Thursday, December 17th. You can sign up for one or both events in the Fellowship Hall kitchen on the Sign-Up sheet that’s on the Bulletin Board. As often as possible, please bring your food donations in foil (recyclable) or disposable containers. This helps us keep our Clean Up crew happy! We’d love to have you join us . . . for dinner and for serving others!

HEIGHTS EMERGENCY FOOD CENTER

Are plastic grocery bags stacking up somewhere in your kitchen? The faithful

volunteers at the Heights Emergency Food Center will be happy to take them off your hands (or from under your sink!). This is the time of year that they get particularly busy. In September they served 505 families – 1255 individuals! And the need will only increase the next few months. *Wondering how else you can help?* While peanut butter, canned vegetables, stuffing mix and other items are always in demand, *the best gift is cash because they can stretch \$1.00 much farther than we can through wholesale purchasing and Food Bank orders.*

THE HEIGHTS EMERGENCY FOOD CENTER AND THE HEIGHTS YOUTH THEATRE

are working together to benefit the clients of the Hunger Center (and you)! The Youth Theatre’s next production is “Oliver” and they have set aside the Saturday, November 7th, 2:00 matinee performance 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.

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.

THANKS TO ALL THOSE WHO PROVIDED FOOD AND COMPANY

to our Interfaith Hospitality Guests! In a difficult time for these families, your care and concern for their welfare and dignity is very powerful.

Our World



EARTHQUAKES DON'T KILL PEOPLE –

broken buildings and a breakdown in the infrastructure do.

Similarly, it is not houses or institutions

that keep people alive in an emergency situation, but the hands and hearts and fortitude of people who take courage and compassion seriously.

Across Indonesia, earthquakes are common. The 17,000 islands of Indonesia exist because of seismic activity along the "Ring of Fire," an unlucky-horseshoe-shaped geological belt that stretches around the Pacific Rim from north of Australia to Japan, around to Canada, including the western United States, and down to Chile in South America. It includes the most active earthquakes and volcanoes in the world, and some of the richest, most fertile soil.

The 7.6 Richter scale earthquake that struck in western Sumatra two weeks ago destroyed the lives and livelihoods of many people. It also created a fragile moment when God's moving in the world was keenly experienced and shared. One gentleman, Zukri Amra, first ensured the well being of his family, then quickly gathered thirty teenagers to help survivors out from under the rubble, until he was sure "nothing more could be done." This truly is courageous compassion.

Week of Compassion's implementing partners in Indonesia oversaw first-response efforts, including distribution of tents and tarps, establishing water and sanitation supplies, and distributing emergency medical relief. Efforts have now moved from emergency relief to intermediate recovery including the creation of safe spaces for children to play and work through their confusion and anxiety, and, helping to supply families with resources to rebuild and fortify their homes so they are quake-resistant.

In Indonesia and around the world, "expected unexpecteds" are a part of life.

Week of Compassion is committed to the work of responding to the areas of deepest suffering and promoting the widest possibility of mercy and hope.

...they shall flourish as a garden; they shall blossom as the vine...Hosea 14:7b



PARTICIPANTS IN THE GLOBAL MINISTRIES CHILD SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM toured sites in Israel/Palestine in early September, meeting sponsored children and

visiting mission partners and historic locations. Eight participants joined four members of the national UCC and Global Ministries staff on this journey. A key feature of the trip was a day visit to Rawdat El Zuhur (Garden of Flowers) School where some of the group met and interacted with their sponsored child. The school is a long-time partner of the UCC's Child Sponsorship Program. Established in 1952 as a school for destitute girls, it currently serves 233 children.

"Many of the more than 1000 sponsors in the Child Sponsorship Program dream that one day they will meet their sponsored children," says Linda Lawrence, Program Manager. "Some of our group made this dream a reality by traveling . . . to meet one of the 1200 children that has called them 'auntie, uncle or dear friend' in letters and drawings." Lawrence stressed the impact of these meetings - sponsored children become bona fide people in the sponsor's life because a relationship that started with helping to provide financial support becomes a lifetime connection.

Global Ministries Middle East and Europe executive, Peter Makari, led the group to many biblical sites and introduced them to the work of mission partners and mission personnel. "Everyone got a sense of the context and engaged with Global Ministries' mission partners, as well as others - Jews, Christians and Muslims - in the land often called holy," he said. We pray today for the children of Rawdat El Zuhur, and for their US sponsors sending them love and support.



“I am the Vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from Me you can do nothing. John 15:5

CONNECTED TO CHRIST AND CHANGING LIVES!

That’s us!! Surprised? You shouldn’t be! Sometimes we are so close to a situation that we fail to comprehend all that is before us – we can come and go on a Sunday and simply not realize what is happening behind the scenes that day – or on all the days that follow during the course of that week. As we grow in our Discipleship – and in our stewardship – we need to be keenly aware of all that is being done in ministry in the church we call home.

We’ve heard some stories in worship about individual life changes at Disciples. On November 15th during worship, we will see a video about our church home that will show us many more ways God continues to change lives through our ministry here together. What more is still to come? How much more quickly could we grow if we all respond as even more generous disciples to what God is doing through our church? Can we even begin to imagine?? We hope you’ll be with us each week as we move toward November 22nd – the day we’ll gather our 2010 commitment cards and celebrate our continued growth as Christ’s Disciples!

Our roots are deep – Let’s Grow Disciples!

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