

## *A Message From Merlyn*

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**We've been blessed with great weather this week. The thermometer offers us a respite from the oppressive heat, and we are glad to open our windows and let in some of the pleasant air outside. Soon we will be reaching for our sweaters and that extra blanket at night. The change in seasons is inevitable, and though never predictable, we look forward to preparing for the fall season.**

**The season in church life will also change. We will gather more intentionally now that summer vacations are concluding and the school year begins. Our numbers in worship will increase; we will exchange stories of our adventures, and we will start thinking about seriously attending to our ministries once again. Think about how you may have changed this summer. It happened while you weren't watching----so do a self-check.**

**Who was a blessing to you? Who were you a blessing to? Did you stop to appreciate nature in full bloom? It's not too late. We have been given the season called LIFE to break out of our cocoons and become extravagantly beautiful butterflies. How is your transformation coming along?**

**Pray with me for the season's work ahead: He said to his disciples, "*The harvest is great, but the workers are few. So pray to the Lord who is in charge of the harvest; ask him to send more workers into his fields.*" (Matt. 10: 37-38, NLT)**

**Rejoice in Your Abundant Blessings,  
Rev. Merlyn M. Winters**

## FIRST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

September 2, 2012

**VALET PARKING** - offered by Kathie Sizemore at 8:30 a.m.

**COFFEE HOUR** starts at 8:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall on the first, second, third and fourth Sunday of this month. A free community lunch is offered at 11:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. on the third and fourth Sunday of this month. At 8:00 a.m. a community breakfast along with a sack lunch is offered the last Sunday of this month. Children's talk is during the 9:30 a.m. worship.

**FOOD PANTRY** - offers a chance for you to help feed the area's hungry. Please bring food staples to help us continue our support of this community-at-large ministry.



### Ruth Group

Thursday, September 6th; 1:30 p.m.  
Study Leader and hostess is Dorothy Kay

### Events Coming Up

September 7-9	Ohio Women's Ministries Fall Retreat
September 11	Regional Elders Meeting
September 14-16	Ohio Disciple Men's Fall Retreat

For more details and to register go to [www.ccinoh.org](http://www.ccinoh.org)

### CMF Breakfast

Saturday, September 15th; 7:30 a.m. @ Marion Diner

### October Gazette Deadline

Tuesday, September 18th; 11:00 a.m.

### Pray and Praise Service

*Prayer and Praise* is a second service which will be casual and shorter (planned for 45 minutes). It begins at 7:00 p.m. The service will include a time for silent contemplation, praise music, scripture reading, and communion. Bring your friends.

### Reconciliation Special Day Offering

Sundays, September 30th and October 7th. Write your name and/or regular offering envelope number on your offering for recording your individual record of giving.

### SHOE BOX MINISTRY

Operation Christmas Child, the unique shoe box gift project of Samaritan's Purse, enjoyed its most fruitful year ever. In 2011, OCC collected 8.6 million shoe box gifts which were delivered to over 120 countries. Along with their shoe box gifts, children are given colorful storybooks that present God's plan of salvation in their local language. The three-booklet set guides children through a study of who Jesus is, what it means to follow Him, and how to share this exciting message with others. Be part of the Shoe Box Ministry this year. There are many ways you can be a part of this Ministry:

1. Fill one or more shoe boxes. Again this year, plastic shoe boxes wrapped in Christmas paper will be provided. Gift suggestions include school supplies, small toys, hygiene items, hard candy, T-shirts, socks, hair clips, etc. Do not include chocolate or food, liquids or lotions, any war-related items such as toy guns or military figures.
  2. Monetary donations can be made to defray the cost of the plastic shoe boxes and to help with the shipping cost of each shoe box (last year it cost \$7 to ship each shoe box).
  3. Pray for the child/children receiving a shoebox.
- Deadline for shoe boxes is November 4, 2012.  
Coming soon – wrapped shoeboxes! Any questions, please call Brenda Reish (389-5941).

## Finances

The good news is we are replenishing our General Fund savings account. This was made possible through lower operating cost. The bad news (you knew this was coming) is that we are behind in our giving to the General Fund. So far this year, as compared to the past several years, we still have time to catch up. Please look at your giving and if you are behind try to catch up.

### UCC Care Closet

We are asking for donations for the monthly Care Closet that UCC supports. People are referred by Job and Family Services, Turning Point, or any churches. These donations provide products they are unable to purchase with food stamps. Items such as toothpaste, bar soap, shampoo, deodorant, tissues, paper towel, toilet paper, cleaning supplies, and laundry items are needed. Your donations may be placed in the marked box by the front door in the Fellowship Hall.

<u>Utilities</u>	<b>May</b>	<b>June</b>	<b>July</b>
Columbia Gas	\$ 312.79	\$ 87.59	\$135.09
Ohio Edison	234.34	395.49	412.89
Frontier	185.12	191.51	191.00
Aqua Ohio	-----	99.13	-----
Sewer/Trash	250.07	-----	247.30
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>\$ 982.32</u></b>	<b><u>\$773.72</u></b>	<b><u>\$986.28</u></b>

### **ADDRESS CHANGES:**

**Genevieve Beers**, 16001 Lakeshore Villa Drive, Apt. 135, Tampa, FL 33613

**David Bernow**, 810 Kibby Drive, Apt. N, Marion

**Brian & Allie Braumiller**, 1718 Grandview Drive, Marion

**Cyd DeGood**, 400 Delaware Ave., Apt. 308, Marion

**Bob & Barb England**, 10 Village Lane #24, Delaware, OH 43015

**Paul & Olga Geissler**, 464 James Way, Apt. 138, Marion

**Earl Smith**, Marion Manor, Room 34B, 195 Executive Dr.

**Josh Votaw**, 1904 Twp. Hwy. 55, Nevada, OH 44849

## READY TO BE CHECKED OUT IN OUR LIBRARY

Chicken Soup For The Cancer Survivor's Soul: 101 Healing Stories About Those Who Have Survived Cancer (Jack Canfield, Mark V. Hansen and others)...stories of comfort and inspiration.

What On Earth Are You Doing For Heaven's Sake? (Dr. Leonard E. Stadler)...the author, a United Methodist Church minister, tells us that every person has the same number of minutes in each hour and the same number of hours in each day. Each day should be an experience of receiving God's blessings and sharing them with others.

If God Is Your Co-pilot, Swap Seats! (James W. Moore) ...in this easy to read (large print) and understand book the author says the message of the title is: Don't just take God along for the ride. Rather, let God do the driving! Put God in the driver's seat of your life. Don't make God your assistant; ask Him to be the chief pilot on your life's journey.

An Amish Family Reunion (Mary Ellis)...Eli takes over the responsibilities of the farm after his father's heart attack and so gives up his dream of writing. However, he won't give up his love for his beloved Phoebe.

September 11 (Mary Englar)... An account of the tragic events of September 11, 2001 written for children.

The Little Chapel That Stood (A.B. Curtiss)... Also about that devastating day in September 2001, this inspiring story helps children see that freedom and courage will always keep America the land of the free and the home of the brave.

## A Message From Your Librarian

THANK YOU to all who have allowed your pictures to be a part of the bulletin board display in the library. The theme "What On Earth Are You Doing For Heaven's Sake?" will continue during September. New pictures are being added each week so be certain to come in and see who is doing what. CCC has many hard working and dedicated members.

THE LIBRARY may be used for meetings (please schedule with the our church secretary) during the week. On Sunday mornings it is always open to all. Recently (to my delight) some folks have come in after the worship service and we have discussed books we have been reading. These have not been planned meetings and everyone is welcome. So, if you see that the door is closed (just trying to keep the cool air inside) or a group sitting at a table, come right on in.

YOU MIGHT LIKE TO KNOW that Marc Harshman has been named state poet laureate of West Virginia. Marc is the nephew-in-law of Don Ryan (and lives near my hometown). We have some of his books in our Children's Library. They will be on the table upstairs. Check one out to read with a youngster in your family.

PLEASE let me know if you have book titles to suggest for either of our libraries.

Melba Huddlestun

### **THANK YOU NOTE. . .**

Dear Friends in Ohio!

I miss Ohio very much - things are so different down here but I am adjusting. Thanks for the cards for they mean a lot to me.

**Love to all, Genevieve**

### **THANK YOU TO . . .**

- **Libby Davis, Mary Kirk, Patsy Krider, Eve Reiff, Eileen Stephenson and Diane Tidd** for helping in the church office.
- **all** the yard weeding volunteers.

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**Prayer Concerns**

#### **Members**

|                         |                         |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Dorothy Besch           | Gene & Charlotte Miller |
| Libby Davis             | Ken Mishler             |
| Betty Denney            | Joel Reeve              |
| Paul & Olga Geissler    | John Roush              |
| Roger & Esther Kingsley | Earl Smith              |
| Betty Leib              | Barb West               |

#### **Non-members**

|                         |                                 |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Brad Campbell (Miller)  | Ruth Manier (Kingsley)          |
| Ann Clark (Middaugh)    | Debbie Melvin (Reish)           |
| Rick Clark (Middaugh)   | Paul Pezley (Schertzer)         |
| Dave Doss (Tidd)        | Marcia Riggelman (Davis)        |
| Ken Ellinwood (Tidd)    | Helen Swinehart (Frye)          |
| Rick Huddle (Schertzer) | Donna <i>No last name given</i> |
| Linda Mahan (Middaugh)  | (Owen)                          |

**Military: Erin Kirk, Kevin Kirk, Jason Knotts, Sarah Sipe**

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**OUR SYMPATHY TO FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF . . .**

**Brandy McDermott** (*Esther Kingsley's granddaughter*)  
who passed away Sunday, July 15, 2012

**Robert "Bob" Cook**  
who passed away Monday, July 16, 2012

**CCC CELEBRATES  
SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES**

*Happy Anniversary!*

12 James & Julie Ryan  
14 Tim & LuAnn Butler  
16 Rick & Tammy Shirk  
20 Shawn & Christina Proudfoot

*Happy Birthday!*

1	Sharon Evans	18	Deven Deickert
3	Megan Miller	20	Bruce Snyder
	Alexandra Seckel	22	Dakoda Jenkins
7	Brittany O'Dowd		Josh Davis
9	Dennis Eckerley	23	Ronald Shafer
	Barb Ryan	24	Ellen Borders
10	Betty Leib		Nettie Borders
13	Susie Miller		James Ryan
14	Brenda Reish	25	Ben Milligan
15	Jane Cooper		Tom Obenour
		26	Matt Field
			Kaylea Weller
			Mike A. Schertzer
		30	Miles Milligan

*If you have a September birthday or anniversary (or know of someone in the congregation who does) that is not listed in this Gazette, please notify the church office as soon as possible so our records can be updated. Thanks!*