



Steeple News

September 2011



Pastor's Page



One of my favorite writers is a Catholic priest, Henri J. M. Nouwen (pronounced *Nowen*), who wrote the book, *The Wounded Healer*. Someone lent me one of his books lately that has inspired me greatly called *The Inner Voice of Love*. Let me share with you part of the chapter entitled, "Cry Inward."

Nouwen writes, "You have to move gradually from crying outward- crying out for people who you think can fulfill your needs- to crying inward to the place where you can let yourself be held and carried by God..."

People will disappoint you – yes, even Christian people. Church folk are human just like you, and don't always portray Christ-likeness the way we think they ought. Even the minister might be having a bad day, and is, for the moment, incapable of fulfilling your deepest needs. Some people might get mad when this happens. Other people will be drawn to look inward and find the love and peace of God that already resides there.

There are times when the faith community can lift us up and meet our social and spiritual needs. But we break through a new level of maturity when we can tap from the inner resources of faith and soar above the storm clouds of adversity, fear and angst. Our inward cry is a sign of touching the depths of our faith and the fingertips of God.

If we look inward, will we find God in the jungle of thoughts, emotions, and impulses that populate our inner psycho-spiritual self? God enters our inner world as creativity, faith and love, and we find that in the depths of our being, God was always there, waiting for us to find the divine nature.

Peace in your search for the God in you,

Gary Proietti

Surprise Birthday Cake for Pastor Gary on

Sunday, August 21.

Pauline Malone served Root Beer
or Seven Up floats.

Becky Coleman made the cake decorated with a motorcycle on the open road.









Remember in Prayer



Amy Pogacsnik's sister who was in a bad car accident, Kenny Hahn, LeRoy Hayes, Julie Heckelman Pettit, Jamie Meyers, Carleigh Dufresne, Wayne Lutes, our Government leaders, Jim & Jean Nickols, Tom & Jackie Holland, the Stewardship Team, the Vision Team, Judy Shover, people fighting cancer, and all who are suffering as a result of nature's disasters.

Thank You

- ◆ Steve Hohler for removing weeds and trimming shrubs.
- ◆ Becky Coleman for doing the edging of the church sidewalks.
- ◆ Bob Bement for removing the spikes from the landscaping timbers for the play yard.
- ◆ Grant Coleman for mowing the church yard.
- ◆ Lawrence Johns for cleaning the church every two weeks this summer.

—Mary Ann Robinson

- ◆ Evelyn Johns and Mary Ann Robinson for their commitment to Angel Food Distribution days , Saturday, August 27th.
- ◆ Todd Mullen and Carter Bragdon for picking up our Angel Food order on Saturday, August 27th.

—Barb Bement

- ◆ Mary Ann Robinson and Barb Bement for helping me with Kiwanis in August.

—Pauline Malone

- ◆ To all who have supported our Coupons for the Troops. We need food coupons, baby products coupons and laundry coupons.

—Mary Ann Robinson

Announcing the Marriage of

Adam Christopher Link and Ann Elizabeth Bolla were married on July 23, 2011 in Erie, PA. Reverend Joyce officiated. Adam's brothers Brandon and Kellen Link were in the bridal party as well as nephew and niece, Bryce and Rylie Mullen. Proud mom, Nan Link received the bridal bouquet in honor and memory of Adam's dad, Joseph Link and sister, Diane Link Mullen.







Thank you to

The Four of Us.....

Nan Link, Linda Phillips, Marianne Snyder and

Becky Coleman for the wonderful music during worship.

We are blessed to have a talented group.

What is Neighbors in Need?

Through the Neighbors in Need offering, the church expresses a common commitment to justice and compassion throughout the United States and Puerto Rico. **One-third of the offering** undergirds the work of the Council for American Indian Ministry (CAIM), including much-needed financial support for 20 American Indian congregations in the UCC. **Two-thirds of the offering** supports justice advocacy and direct service projects such as **just-peace programs and community grants**.

Most congregations receive Neighbors in Need on the first Sunday of October, World Communion Sunday.

Neighbors in Need Offering

Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time / Christian Education Sunday
 9/4/2011, TRUE, "Ezekiel 33:7-11 Exodus 12:1-14
 Psalm 119:33-40 Psalm 149
 Romans 13:8-14
 Matthew 18:15-20

Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time, 9/11/2011, TRUE,
 Theme: Land Sunday
 Genesis 50:15-21 Exodus 14:19-31
 Psalm 103:[1-7] 8-13 Psalm 114 or
 Exodus 15:1b-11, 20-21
 Romans 14:1-12
 Matthew 18:21-35

Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time, 9/18/2011, TRUE,
 Theme: Wilderness/Outback Sunday ", 3
 Jonah 3:10—4:11 Exodus 16:2-15
 Psalm 145:1-8 Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45
 Philippians 1:21-30
 Matthew 20:1-16

Twenty-sixths Sunday in Ordinary Time / American Indian Ministry Sunday Lectionary, 9/25/2011, TRUE,
 Theme: River Sunday",
 "Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32 Exodus 17:1-7
 Psalm 25:1-9 Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16
 Philippians 2:1-13
 Matthew 21:23-32

--Diaconate

mission
M O M E N T S
 U N I T E D C H U R C H O F C H R I S T

The United Church of Christ in American History

How much do you know about the role the United Church of Christ has played in American history?

Today's United Church of Christ is the result of a 1957 merger between American Protestant denominations with rich histories of their own: the Congregational Christian Churches and the Evangelical and Reformed Church.

In the month of September, we can look back and celebrate these notable events—several of them historic “firsts” in the history of our country:

--A young member of Boston's Old South congregation, Phillis Wheatley, becomes the first published African American author in 1773. "Poems on Various Subjects" is a sensation, and Wheatley gains her freedom from slavery soon after. Modern African American poet Alice Walker says of her: "[She] kept alive, in so many of our ancestors, the notion of song."

--Antoinette Brown is the first woman since New Testament times ordained as a Christian minister, and perhaps the first woman in history elected to serve a Christian congregation as pastor. At her ordination a friend, Methodist minister Luther Lee, defends “a woman's right to preach the Gospel.” He quotes the New Testament: “There is neither male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.” (First Congregational Church, Butler, NY, 1853)

--It's 1777 and the British occupy Philadelphia—seat of the rebellious Continental Congress—and plan to melt down the Liberty Bell to manufacture cannons. But the Bell has disappeared. It is safely hidden under the floorboards of Old Zion Reformed Church in Allentown.

--1959: Southern television stations impose a news blackout on the growing civil rights movement, and Martin Luther King Jr. asks the UCC to intervene. Everett Parker of the UCC's Office of Communication organizes churches and wins in Federal court a ruling that the airwaves are public, not private property. The decision leads to a proliferation of people of color in television studios and newsrooms

--On September 3, 1846, the American Missionary Association is incorporated: the first *integrated* anti-slavery society in America.

—ucc.org

Point of Light missions wants to thank everyone who donated items for the rummage sale. We made \$713.00! Also a huge thank you to Bob & Barb Bement, Wilma Jean Kernell, Maryann Robinson and Becky Coleman for their help working the sale. The left over items went to the Habitat for Humanity Re-Store. Thank you to Bob Bement for taking care of the after sale clean-up.

We took in \$271.00 for the Parade of Baskets. The winners were as follows: Nancy Wallace-*Golf Package #1*; Ruth Natole-*Football Package & Smucker's Basket*; Connie Deehr-*Family Fun Basket*; Rev. Gary Proeitti-*Wine Basket*; Sandy Shively-*Sports Package*; Deb Saltis-*Baseball Package*; Colin-*Surprise Package*; Tammy Shupe-*Golf Package #2*; Felicia Priddy-*Adventure Package*; Lisa Robson-*Spa Package*; Bob Bement-*Ballreich Basket*, Shannon Ott-*Cook's Basket*; Tina Ketopanel-*Water Package*. Congratulations to all the winners!

We also need to thank all those who donated items to make up the baskets. They were: Pierre's Digital Print Center, Grant Coleman, Mystic Belle, Cleveland Metroparks Zoo, Carousel Museum, Seneca Caverns, Becky Vaughan Coleman, Africian Safari Wildlife Park, Ballreich's Brothers, Norwalk Walmart, Bob & Tina Coleman, Simply Smuckers, U.C.C. Women's Fellowship, Green Hills /Woussickett Golf Course, Bob Bement, The John Holler Family, Eagle Creek Golf Course, Kyle Case / Pampered Chef, Great Wolf Lodge, Dorene Yow / Tanger Outlet Centers, Christian Roberts Salon, Hairway 61, Anonymous Donor, Pittsburg Steelers, Columbus Blue Jackets, Lake Erie Monsters, Pittsburg Pirates, Lake Erie Crushers, Akron Areos, Lake County Captain, Miller Ferries to Put-In-Bay, and Wendy's.

The bottom line \$885.60 went into the general fund and \$98.40 went to the Berlin Heights Community Center. Again thank you to all that supported our efforts.

—Point of Light Becky Coleman

Fisher-Titus Medical Center
Health Ministry Program

As we conclude Summer and begin September the busyness never seems to end! It is important that we learn to “Enjoy the Moment”.

God gave us all the gift of a wonderful body (a temple of the Holy Spirit) and it is our responsibility to care for our body throughout our whole life. Our emotional health is part of the foundation for temple building. God wants you to care for yourself and to treat yourself with love and respect. God has made you as a beautiful creation and loves you beyond comprehension. Often our days are filled with experiences that steal away our mindfulness of this great truth. Reflect back on a typical day. What past and future worries keep replaying in your mind? What can you do to remind yourself to be conscious and deliberate about enjoying the moment? Say a prayer of thanksgiving for the blessings in your life. (Taken from Healthful Hints Vol I by Helene Elaine Vander Werff RN-C, MRE)

“Do not fear therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows.”

—Matthew 10:31.

--Jill Schafer, R.N.

Fisher Titus Health Ministry

Fisher Titus Medical Center:



Upcoming Blood Pressure & Glucose Screening:

- ◆ Berlin Heights Public Library from Noon—2:00p.m.
- ◆ Monday, September 12th and October 17th

Stop by Fisher-Titus Monday-Friday, 9a.m.-3 p.m. to get your blood pressure check at Fisher-Titus Medical Center's Home Health Center (Benedict Avenue Entrance).

For more information call 419-668-8101 or 1-800-589-FTMC.

—Calendar of Events Fisher Titus Medical Center Flyer

Erie County Health Department**Public Health Outreach Clinic**

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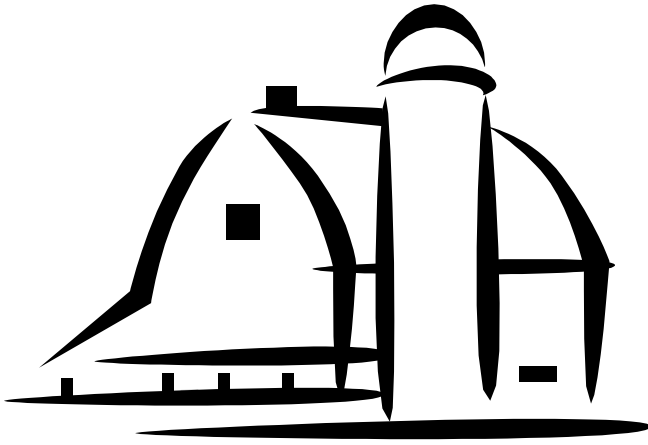
When: Tuesday, September 6, 8am – 10am**Where:** Berlin Township Hall - 12101 State Route 61

Description: Some of the services that will be provided include child, adolescent, and adult vaccines, blood pressure screening, individual health assessments which include lipid profile, blood glucose, hemoglobin A1C, and health risk assessment. (Please note: fasting 9-12 hours, before testing is required for individual health assessments.) FREE lead testing for children 0 to 6 years of age will be available. Additionally, we will be providing referral source services, Community Outreach and Healthy Lifestyle education. Sliding fee scale will be applied as appropriate. Medicaid, Medicare and other insurances are accepted.

Please call 419-626-5623 ext.138 for more information.

**Dates for Erie County Outreach Clinic:****Time: 8am—10am at Berlin Township Hall**

- ◆ Tuesday, September 6 and September 27
- ◆ Tuesday, October 18
- ◆ Tuesday, November 8 and November 29
- ◆ Tuesday, December 20



Everyone is invited to a Barn Dance

at John and Kay Hartman's homestead

6005 Mason Road, Berlin Heights

Admission: A Plate of Cookies

Time: 7:30pm

Date: Sunday, September 4, 2011



At present, Bridge the Budget Gap has reached

76% of the goal.

Thanks be to God!

—Christian Enlistment



Angel Food Menus Available at the church.

-
Order Dates: Sunday, September 4 at church
Wednesday, September 7 from 11am-1pm at BHCC.

Distribution Date: Saturday, September 24 at 10am at BHCC.

Angel Food is open to everyone.

You can order online at www.angelfoodministries.com.

—Barb Bement

July 2011

Dear parents and community members of Berlin Heights and Milan,

Re: Berlin Heights After School Club

The Berlin Heights Community Center is proudly announcing our commitment to keeping the **Berlin Heights** after school care operation for the coming 2011/2012 school year. We plan to continue serving our young people in conjunction with the first day of school in late August. Last Spring there were 53 children enrolled with this club and an average of 35 + children attend on a daily basis.

Many thanks to the community of Berlin Heights, particularly the congregation of the First Congregational Church, its pastor, Rev. Gary Proietti. We also want to thank the commitment of the Berlin Heights Community Center and its board of directors, who have graciously allowed us to come in and use the facility with all expenses donated as an in-kind gift to the program.

The Berlin Heights Community Center is a designated bus stop to deliver children directly from Edison Elementary School each day. Children are in a safe environment, have help with homework and offered enrichment through educational programs.

The cost of operating this club, providing trained staff, equipment, daily after school snacks and materials for club projects costs approximately \$24,000 a year. Grants from area charitable foundations are being sought, but matching funds will be needed from the community in order to receive them. Please consider a generous contribution to keep this worthwhile program in our area. A contribution form and return envelope are provided.

Sincerely,

Glen Bernhardt

BERLIN HEIGHTS COMMUNITY CENTER
After School Club

Please complete this form and mail with your check to:
After School Club, Attention: Linda Phillips, P O Box 66, Berlin Hts., OH 44814

Name of Child _____
Home Address _____
City, State, Zip _____
Age of child _____ Elementary or Middle School Grade _____
Home Phone _____ Cell _____
Email _____

Other Person's authorized to pick up my child: _____
Guardian's Contact: Home Phone _____ Cell _____
My child has allergies: YES _____ NO _____
If YES list allergies here: _____
My child is taking medication: YES _____ NO _____
If YES list medications here: _____
In case of an emergency my child's physician is: _____
Physicians' Phone _____

Please check one:

____ I would like my child to have help with homework.
____ I would prefer that my child did their homework at another time

We authorize my/our child to participate in the normal indoor and outdoor activities which occur on a day to day basis. (Special permission is required for out of area field trips.)

I/We the parents/guardians of this child acknowledge the After School Club will operate only on school days from the time the school is dismissed for the day until 6:00 pm. I/We understand that \$20 per month membership donations are due in advance the 1st Monday of the month. **Please make checks payable to Berlin Hts. Community Center.**

_____ Date _____
Signature of parent or legal guardian

***For further information or questions concerning the after school care program, please contact Cheryl Drake at 419-750-0426

BERLIN HEIGHTS COMMUNITY CENTER
Campaign Fund for After School Club

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

We/I would like to make a contribution to the Berlin Heights Community Center in the amount of \$_____. (Please make checks payable to BHCC, thank you.)

We/I would like to pledge \$_____ for the **2011-2012** school year and make periodic payments.

Please mail your gift to:

**After School Club
BHCC, P.O. Box 66,
Berlin Hts., OH 44814**

Please check one:

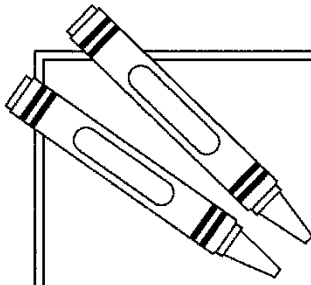
_____ Please mail me a receipt.

_____ I do not need a receipt.

The Berlin Heights Community Center, a 501C-3 not-for-profit corporation, is organized to enhance the quality of life in Berlin Heights, Ohio and to provide services and facilities for the charitable undertakings of individuals and other organizations formed to benefit Berlin Township and the surrounding community as approved by the Board of Directors.

Thank You!
Berlin Heights Community Center
Board of Directors

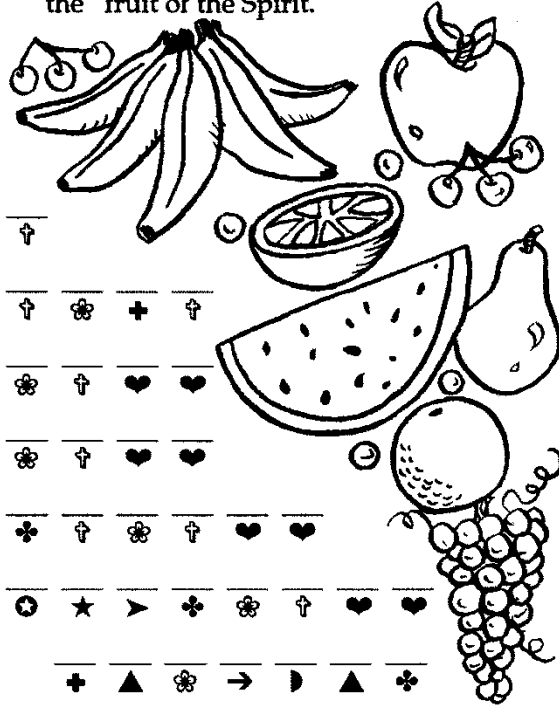
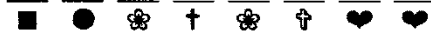
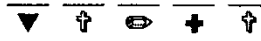
—Linda Phillips



Just for KIDS

"The Fruit of the Spirit"

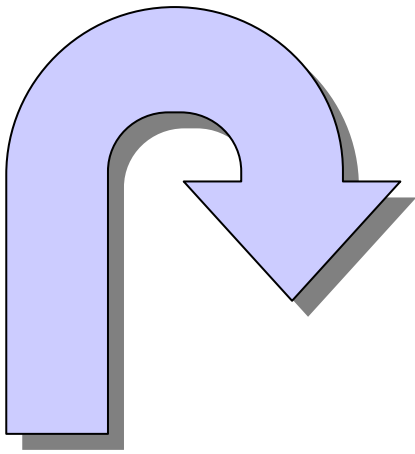
If you live as Jesus taught, your life will display the "fruit of the Spirit."



Use the code below to find the answers. Check them in your Bible. You will find the answers in Galatians 5:22-23.

Code

A=	F=	Q=	V=
B=	G=	R=	W=
C=	H=	S=	X=
D=	I=	L=	O=
E=	J=	M=	P=
			U=
			Z=



Point of Light Missions is always looking for people that are interested in mission work. New ideas are always welcome. Please join us if you would like to get involved with this group. We meet the third Monday of the month at 7:00pm.

Situation Comedy

My husband, a minister, preached an object lesson where he used potatoes and gave each a name, such as “imi-tator,” “dic-tator,” and “agi-tator.” Then he likened them to problem people in the church. He summed up by urging us all to be “sweet-tators.” On leaving the service, one parishioner shook his hand and said, “I yam what I yam.”

---Kresha Fields

Hindsboro United Methodist Church
Hindsboro, IL

September Birthdays and Anniversaries

Sept 1 Brandon Link
Sept 2 Tevon Oehling
Sept 4 Craig Plue
Sept 4 Rylie Mullen
Sept 5 Lindsay Beatty
Sept 6 Allison Griffith
Sept 6 Meredith Holler
Sept. 8 Otis Malone
Sept 9 Tom Robson
Sept 14 Trinity Schafer
Sept 14 Lawrence & Evelyn Johns
Sept 14 Ron & Bobette Nemire
Sept 16 Gladys Schatz
Sept 16 Meagen Kuzak
Sept 16 Morgen Kuzak
Sept 17 Amy Chambers
Sept 17 Lynea Nemire
Sept 20 Rachel Dabrowolskei
Sept 20 Mike & Kathy Old
Sept 24 Jim & Jean Nickols
Sept 25 Bill Coleman
Sept 26 Phillip Amstutz
Sept 26 Marianne Snyder
Sept 27 Buffy Land
Sept 29 Luella Tuttle



September 11, 2011

Rally Sunday

9:15 a.m.

“The Great Faith Race”

Activities start at 9:15a.m. Following worship at Fellowship Hour a lunch will be served. After lunch more fun and exciting activities for young and older after lunch.

Come let's begin “The Great Faith Race”.

September Worship Leaders

Sept. 4

Ushers: Roger Wallace,
Alexis Burnham, Norma Robson

Acolytes: Sydney Johnson

Liturgist: Linda Phillips

Children's Story:

Nursery:

Coffee Host: Congregation

Sept. 11

Ushers: Roger Wallace,
Alexis Burnham, Norma Robson

Acolytes: Valerie Deehr

Liturgist: Ron Nemire

Children's Story: Rev. Gary Proietti

Nursery:

Coffee Host: Deehr/ Daniels

Sept. 18

Ushers: Roger Wallace,
Alexis Burnham, Norma Robson

Acolytes: Rylie Mullen

Liturgist: Wilma Jean Kernell

Children's Story:

Nursery:

Coffee Hosts: Evelyn & Lawrence Johns

Sept. 25

Ushers: Roger Wallace,
Alexis Burnham, Norma
Robson

Acolytes: Chase Aruskevicius

Liturgist: Pauline Malone

Children's Story:

Nursery:

Coffee Hosts:

First Congregational Church and Society
United Church of Christ
Reverend Gary Proietti
5 E. Main Street
P.O. Box 66
Berlin Heights, OH 44814
419-588-2102
e-mail address: bhcong@frontier.com

