



Christian Church in Ohio

D I S C I P L E S O F C H R I S T

A covenant network of congregations in mission:

We are the Body of Christ gifted and called in covenant together as Disciples of Christ to be centers of transformation on the new mission frontier of our own communities.

MINISTERS' MAILING FOR DECEMBER 2009

355 E. Campus View Blvd. Suite 110, Columbus, Ohio 43235-5616

Phone: (614) 433-0343 Fax: (614) 433-7285

www.ccinoh.org

NOTE: Please post any flyers contained in this packet so that the congregation is informed of Regional events. If you are receiving this by email please **PRINT OFF FLYERS** and post them.

Clergy Alert

Message from Rev. Dr. William H. Edwards

Open Church List

Calendar Update

Parish Paper

November & December

Cleveland Christian Home

Christmas List

CYF Mid-Winters

Letter, Flyers, & Forms

Spiritual Life

Retreat Information & Registration

Ohio Ministries Convocation

Brochure

If you do not wish to receive the Ministers Mailing or have any questions/comments contact 614-433-0343 or jtoddart@ccinoh.org.

Clergy Alert

If you have anything to put in the Clergy Alert (Prayer Concerns, Deaths, and don't forget JOYS) please email them to ccio@ccinoh.org or call the Regional Church Office. Clergy Alerts are emailed out as needed and included in every Minister's Mailing.

Prayer Concerns

Rev. Denise (Denny) Whiteside was recently admitted to Grady Memorial Hospital for a couple of procedures. Denny is an Ordained Minister living in Delaware Ohio. Messages for Denny may be sent to denodenbuzz@yahoo.com or to 128 N Washington St Apt #6, Delaware, OH 46015.

Rev. Albert Kean was recently in the hospital. Al is a retired minister who is serving as a Regional Elder for District 2. Messages for Al may be sent to 1527 Columbia Rd, Westlake, OH 44145-2404.

Rev. Douglas Shoaff recently had a medical procedure done. Doug had been a Pastor in Ohio and is now serving a Congregation in Arizona. Messages for Doug may be sent to cdshoaff@comcast.net or 148 Woodcrest Dr, Wheeling, WV 26003-4678 via Doug's wife Carol.

Ann Oakes had successful surgery at St. Elizabeth's hospital. She is doing very well considering all she has been through. Anne is the wife of Rev. Dr. Bernard Oakes, Pastor at Lordstown Christian Church. Messages for Anne may be sent through Bernie at bom486@aol.com or 486 Hogarth Ave, Niles, OH 44446-3430

Charlotte Johnson, wife of Rev. Paul Johnson, fell in October and has been in and out of the hospital for other issues as well. Messages for Charlotte may be sent to 14783 State Route 278 NE, Nelsonville, OH 45764-9608.

Steve Seitz, member at the Tylersville Road Christian Church in Mason, had a confirmed case of bacterial meningitis, which is caused some major complications. He is currently at home and doing much better. Steve is the husband of Daun, father of Emily (Schmitt) and Andrew, all three are Counselors at CYF Conference and active in other Regional capacities. Messages for the Seitz family may be sent to daunseitz@gmail.com or to ecschmitt@gmail.com.

Rev. Richard Elwell had foot surgery on November 9th. Messages for Dick may be sent to relwell6@aol.com or 4717 Topper Avenue, Ashtabula, OH 44044.

June Runyon, mother of Cindy Stevens, had a bad fall and needed to have surgery. She is now recuperating at Falls Village Nursing Community in Cuyahoga Falls. Cindy is very active in Regional Youth Ministries and has been a Chi Rho and CYF counselor for years. Messages for Cindy and her mother may be sent to cstevens@crain.com.

Rev. Clyde Graves had hip replacement surgery and is recovering in Twin Maples Nursing Home in McArthur, OH. Clyde is a retired pastor from the Allensville Christian Church. Notes may be sent to 121 Conren Dr., McArthur, OH 45651.

Rev. Dr. Thomas Madden was taken to the hospital November 23. Tom spent a few days in ICU but is doing much better and is home. Tom is the Pastor at Disciples Christian Church in Youngstown. Messages for Tom may be sent to drtmadden@aol.com or to 269 Melbourne Ave, Akron, OH 44313-6541.

Deaths

Walter M. Gillespie died early Oct 12 at Good Samaritan Hospital. He is survived by his wife Mary (Long) Gillespie. Walter is the father of Bonnie Goldner, and Father in Law to Rev. Dr. Russell Goldner. Walter is also the Uncle of Rev. Dr. Janet Long, Pastor at Washington Ave. Christian Church in Elyria. A Funeral Service was held October 17 at United Christian Church 8611 Hoke Road, Englewood, Ohio 45315. Contributions may be made in memory of Walter to Northmont FISH, 201 North Main Street, Englewood, OH 45322. Messages for Bonnie and Russ may be sent to bgoldner@roadrunner.com, go2russ@roadrunner.com, or 796 Ravenhill Rd, Sagamore Hills, OH 44067. Messages for Janet may be sent to pastor@waccelyria.org or Washington Avenue Christian Church, 301 Washington Ave, Elyria, OH 44035-5124.

For the full Obituary go to <http://www.legacy.com/Link.asp?l=LS000134374815X>

Viola Hedgeman died Oct 15. Viola is the mother of Rev. Dr. Robin Hedgeman, Pastor at Bethany Christian Church in Cleveland. Calling hours were held at Bethany Christian Church October 21, with the funeral service following. Final rites and burial were in Washington, D.C. on Oct 23. Messages for Robin may be sent to RHedge@aol.com or Bethany Christian Church, 3940 Martin Luther King Jr Dr, Cleveland, OH 44105-4357

Benjamin "Gene" Parker, father of Rev. Thomas Parker, died unexpectedly November 3. Tom is the Minister at Living Faith Community Church, in Dayton. The Funeral Service was held at Tobias Belmont in Dayton. Messages for Tom may be sent to 2921 Eckley Blvd, Dayton, OH 45449 or to revtpucc@prodigy.net.

Fern Stout, mother-in-law to Rev. Jane M. Stout, died November 5 in Glen Carbon, IL. She had been ill for a short time. Fern was the wife of the late Rev. Vernon G. Stout, Jr., a Disciples pastor in Kentucky and Illinois. She was the mother of the late Rev. Dr. Stephen G. Stout, an Ohio pastor. Words of support and condolence can be sent to the family through Rev. Jane Stout, P.O. Box 732, Wilmington, OH 45177 or to JaneMStout@aol.com.

Reverend Mabel Metze

The [Division of Overseas Ministries/Global Ministries](#) and [Disciples Home Missions](#) announce the passing of Reverend Mabel Metze, on Tuesday, November 3, 2009, at the age of 102. Mabel was a missionary who served in the Philippines from 1968-1974, as a teacher of church history (including Philippine church history). Mabel taught at the Ellinwood College of Christian Education which prepared young women of the Philippines for Christian service. Mabel visited with former First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt, and at Mrs. Roosevelt's request, acted as a guide for diplomats and United Nations delegates who visited the Philippines.

Mabel was a native of Ohio and received her B.A. degree from Bethany College in 1928, an M.S. degree from Boston College in 1932, and an M.Div from Christian Theological Seminary in 1968.

In 1948, Miss Metze joined the staff of The United Christian Missionary Society as Director of the children's work field program in the Christian Education Department. She assisted in the development and use of materials for vacation church schools, and counseled with regional staffs in the development of leadership.

Reverend Metze served as visiting lecturer at Christian Theological Seminary in her ministry of training and continuing education for professional educators in the church. She also assisted at Brite Divinity School of Texas Christian University, Phillips University, Eureka College, and Northwest Christian College in conducting Christian education practica for their students.

Mabel traveled around the world three times and almost caused an international incident when visiting Russia in her attempts to locate a church she could attend. Reverend Metze was known for her sweet tooth. Last December, along with other former missionaries and friends, she attended the Global Ministries Christmas party at Robin Run and enjoyed two pieces of pie.

Reverend Metze's final request has been honored by her family and her body has been donated to Indiana University for scientific study.

Mabel Metze is survived by a nephew, Ray Acker, Zanesville, Ohio; two nieces, Dorothy Edwards, Jacksonville, NC., and Norma Gant, Franklin, TN; as well as many great (up to four greats), nieces and nephews. A memorial service will be held at a later date at Downey Avenue Christian Church, Indianapolis. Messages of condolence may be sent to her niece, Dorothy Edwards, 225 Audubon Drive, Jacksonville, NC 28546.

Congregational

The historic ministry of Broad Street Christian Church at its 1049 E. Broad Street location in Columbus, Ohio will come to an end on December 31, 2009. The building is under contract to be purchased by an Ethiopian Orthodox Congregation. The final worship celebration at the current location will be on December 27, 2009 at 3:00 PM. You are invited to come and share in this important milestone in our 137 year ministry. Please hold the members of Broad Street Christian Church in your prayer as the congregation spiritually discerns the future implications of this decision.

By agreement with the purchasing congregation, we are disposing of several items of value including our 1908 Felgemaker Sanctuary Organ, our Sanctuary Baby Grand piano, a small chapel organ, five other pianos and other items of interest.

LISTING OF THE ITEMS

- Organ - Sanctuary 1908 Felgemaker *
* The recipient of this organ will be expected to pay the total cost of removal and transportation of organ at an estimated cost of \$20,000. This organ had a \$100,000 renovation in the nineties.

- Organ - Small Chapel Organ
- Piano - Sanctuary Baby Grand
- Pianos - 5 upright

- Vast Music Library
- Hymnals - Chalice
- Hymnals - Hymns for the Family of God

- Candelabras
- Paraments
- Communion equipment

- Sanctuary Cross (wooden 8'X6')

- Reading library with Disciple books, other books, Interpreters Bible (11 vol), New Interpreters Bible, (11 vol), Interpreters Diction (4 vol)

- Other miscellaneous items

These items must be removed from our location during the time frame of January 1-15, 2010. Interested churches may contact our office during the hours of 8-12 Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday at (614) 258 – 9567 or by email at BroadstreetCC@sbcglobal.net. For more information you may contact our congregation president Jane Osuga at (614) 871- 1993 or Interim Pastor John Shearer at (248) 376- 5791. Timely scheduled visits to see these items can be arranged. The deadline for inquiring is December 18, 2009.

"Let's get over to Bethlehem as fast as we can and see for ourselves what God has revealed to us." -- Luke 2:15

Dear Partners in Ministry,

As we enter this Advent season, celebrating the glorious coming of Jesus Christ as Savior to this world, I pray God's continued blessings upon your lives and ministry. I praise God for your leadership and the faithfulness in with which you fulfill your call to ministry in Ohio.

The biblical text and theme of our 2009 Christmas offering is **Luke 2:15 - "O Come all You Faithful"**. I praise God for the **faithful** ministry of our Regional Church. Across the life of the Christian Church in Ohio, there are exciting stories of the **faithful** work of **new** congregations being established, existing congregations being renewed and transformed, and leaders equipped for ministry. Great things are taking place as we are **faithful** to join God in God's mission for the sake of the world.

For 2009, the Regional Church Council approved a budget with a goal of \$75,000 for the Christmas Offering. Together, we can answer God's call to be a "covenant network of congregations in mission" by supporting current and future ministries through the annual Christmas Offering. Each year, churches throughout the Region collect this offering in support of regional outreach ministries, including Camp Christian, youth, young adult, women's and men's ministries, the Cleveland Christian Home and new initiatives such as the Congregational Transformation Network.

With deep appreciation for your previous Christmas Offering contributions, we are asking that you prayerfully consider setting your own congregational goal for this year's collection. The Regional Church Office has a number of customized materials available to help you promote the Christmas Offering--from a downloadable PowerPoint presentation to bulletin inserts to ideas for children's sermons. These materials are available by either contacting the Regional Church Office at 614.433.0343 or visiting the Web site at www.ccinoh.org.

I would also like to take this opportunity to express deep appreciation for all the ways you support God's work in the Regional Church, be it through prayer, leadership and attendance at regional events, or financial offerings. Many people's lives have been blessed through your **faithful** support of the Christian Church in Ohio.

I look forward with great anticipation of what God will do through us as ministers of the Gospel and leaders in Christ's church in the days ahead.

May God's Blessings be with you,

Bill

Christian Church in Ohio

DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

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Churches Actively Seeking Pastors

City	Church Name	District	Staff Contact
Athens	First Christian Church	13/14	Stephen Bentley
Cincinnati	Carthage Christian Church (Part-time)	12	LaTaunya Bynum
Clayton	United Christian Church	8	LaTaunya Bynum
Findlay	First Christian Church	5	LaTaunya Bynum
Shadyside	First Christian Church	10/11	Stephen Bentley
Xenia	First United Christian Church	8	LaTaunya Bynum
Youngstown	Disciples Christian Church	4	Steve Bentley

Churches in Intentional Interim Period

City	Church Name	District	Staff Contact
Akron	High Street Christian Church	3	Bill Edwards
Canton	Faith United Christian Church (Part Time)	7	Stephen Bentley
Cleveland	Lakewood Christian Church	2	Bill Edwards
Columbus	Broad Street Christian Church	9	Stephen Bentley
Fostoria	First Christian Church (part time)	1	LaTaunya Bynum
Genoa	Genoa Christian Church (Part-time)	1	LaTaunya Bynum
Grafton	North Eaton Christian Church	2	Bill Edwards
Marion	Central Christian Church	6	Steve Bentley
Mt. Vernon	First Christian Church	6	Stephen Bentley
Springfield	Central Christian Church	8	LaTaunya Bynum
Uhrichsville	First Christian Church	7	Stephen Bentley
Wilmington	First Christian Church	8	LaTaunya Bynum
Warren	Third Christian Church (Part-time)	4	Bill Edwards

Churches Actively Seeking Associate Pastors or Other Positions

City	Church Name	District	Staff Contact
Wadsworth	First Christian Church	3	Bill Edwards

Positions filled

City	Church Name	District	Pastor
Stow	First Christian Church	3	Jonathan Rumburg

November 5, 2009



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December

- 1 **Deadline for entries into The Buckeye Disciple**
- 2 RCO Staff Meeting and Christmas Celebration
- 3 Regional Elders Meeting @ RCO 10:00am – 3:00pm
- 4 New Church Committee Meeting @ RCO 10:00am – 1:00pm
- 5 Ohio Disciples Men's Officers Meeting @ RCO 10:00am – 2:00pm
- 8 Regional Assembly Planning Team Meeting @ RCO 10:00am – 3:00pm
- *11 - 12 Women's Advent Retreat @ Camp Christian
- 16 Ohio Disciples Extension Corporation Committee Conference Call @ 10:00am
- 24 Christmas Eve, RCO Closed**
- 25 Christmas Day, RCO Closed**

January 2010

- 1 New Years Day, RCO Closed**
- *1 – 3 Advance Ministries Winter Retreat @ Camp Christian
- 10 Anti Racism Commission @ RCO
- 12 Interim Ministers Working Group Meeting @ RCO 10:00am
- 18 Martin Luther King Day, RCO Closed**
- 19 Commission on Ministry @ Northwest Christian Church
- 20 Ohio Disciples Extension Corporation Committee meeting @ RCO 10:00am
- *25-26 Ohio Ministries Convocation @ University Plaza Hotel, Columbus

February

- *5 – 7 Phyto CYF Mid-Winter @ Community Christian Church, North Canton
- 16 Commission on Ministry @ Northwest Christian Church, Columbus
- *19 – 21 Wilmington CYF Mid-Winter @ Mount Healthy Christian Church, Cincinnati
- *23 – 25 Spiritual Life Retreat for Ministers & Spouses @ Camp Christian

March

- 1 Deadline for entries into The Buckeye Disciple**
- 2 Executive Committee Meeting @ RCO
- *5 – 7 Hiram CYF Mid-Winter @ Westlake Christian Church, Cleveland
- 6 Equipping the Saints @ North Congregational Church, Columbus
- 12 – 14 Advance Ministries Spring Retreat @ Camp Christian
- 13 Ohio Women's Ministries Commission Meeting @ RCO
- 13 Chi Rho Commission Meeting @ Camp Christian 10:00am – 2:00pm
- 16 Commission on Ministry @ Northwest Christian Church, Columbus
- 18 – 19 DOC/UCC Partnership Standing Workshop @ RCO
- *19 – 21 Lakeside CYF Mid-Winter @ First Christian Church, Paulding
- 23 New Ministers Orientation @ RCO
- 24 Anti Racism Training for New Ministers @ Camp Christian
- 25 Sexual Ethics Training for New Ministers @ Camp Christian
- 27 Regional Church Council Meeting @ Camp Christian

April

- 2** **Good Friday, RCO Closed**
4 **Easter**
9 – 10 Youth Council Meeting @ Camp Christian
17 Ohio Women's Ministries Convocation @ Gender Rd Christian Church 9:00am – 4:00pm
17 Advance Ministries Scholarship Fundraising Talent Show @ Camp Christian 7:00pm
20 Commission on Ministry @ Northwest Christian Church, Columbus
24 Counselor Training @ Camp Christian
24 Congregational Transformation Conference @ Legacy Christian, Harrison 8:00am
27 Ohio Disciples Extension Corporation Committee meeting @ RCO 10:00am

May

- 1 Counselor Training @ Camp Christian
15 Camp Christian Reunion @ Camp Christian
18 Commission on Ministry @ Northwest Christian Church, Columbus
21 – 23 Ohio Disciple Men's Spring Retreat @ Camp Christian
28 – 30 Disciples Fellowship Retreat @ Camp Christian
31 Memorial Day, RCO Closed

June

- 1** **Deadline for entries into The Buckeye Disciple**
5 Youth Scholarship Golf Outing
13 – 19 Hocking Chi Rho Camp @ Camp Christian
15 Commission on Ministry @ Northwest Christian Church, Columbus
20 – 26 Otter Camp @ Camp Christian
21 – 25 Adult Conference @ Northwest Christian Church
27 – July 3 Hiram CYF Conference @ Camp Christian

July

- 4 – 10 Phyto CYF Conference @ Camp Christian
5 **Fourth of July Observed, RCO Closed**
11 – 17 Portahoga Chi Rho Camp @ Camp Christian
11 – 17 Badger Partnership Camp @ Temples Hills
18 – 24 Maumee Chi Rho Camp @ Camp Christian
20 Commission on Ministry @ Northwest Christian Church, Columbus
25 – 31 Lakeside CYF Conference @ Camp Christian
25 – 31 Beaver Partnership Camp @ Temples Hills
27 Ohio Disciples Extension Corporation Committee meeting @ RCO 10:00am

August

- 1 – 7 Wilmington CYF Conference @ Camp Christian
8 – 14 Miami Chi Rho Camp @ Camp Christian
15 – 22 Advance Ministries Summer Conference @ Camp Christian
17 Commission on Ministry @ Northwest Christian Church, Columbus
27 – 28 CYF Commission @ Camp Christian

RCO = Regional Church Office
*** Online Registration is now available**

THE PARISH PAPER

IDEAS AND INSIGHTS FOR ACTIVE CONGREGATIONS

Coeditors: Herb Miller, Lyle Schaller, Cynthia Woolever - www.TheParishPaper.com

November 2009 - Volume 17, Number 11

Lyle E. Schaller

Seven Roads to a Multicultural Congregation

“We believe we should become a multicultural congregation,” the pastor said. “But how can we move beyond ‘hope is our only strategy’ to a plan that achieves results?”

Start by recognizing eight realities that any effective multicultural-congregation plan must take into account:

1. Assume that the United States will continue to receive each year close to one-half of all the adults on this planet who choose to leave the country of their birth to live in another nation.

2. A relatively tiny proportion of those newcomers will migrate here from Western Europe.

3. For the vast majority of new residents, English is *not* their first language.

4. With modest exceptions, when it comes to a desire to become fully assimilated into the American culture, economy, and institutional scene, those immigrants represent three distinctive subgroups: (a) those who were born in another country and come here as adults, (b) those who were born elsewhere but come as children, accompanying a parent to the United States, and (c) those who were born here and continue to live here. The older the age of the new immigrants, the more likely they will be “separatists,” not “integrationists.” They want to retain a tie with Korea or the Philippines or China, etc., and they want to help their children retain a respect for their culture, diet, language, and customs.

5. Participation in the American labor force is usually the number-one road to assimilation. By contrast, worshiping in an already established Christian community in which the religious culture traces its origins back to Western Europe usually ranks far behind their desire for formal education, recreation, transportation, retail purchases, health care, and a half dozen other points of assimilation. Like most third and fourth-generation Americans, recent immigrants usually prefer to help create the new rather than to join long-established voluntary associations.

6. The categories of “Hispanic” and “Latino” are widely used in contemporary America. But the overwhelming majority of Christian congregations that serve Spanish-speaking recent immigrants identify themselves *in terms of the country of birth of their leaders*, such as Mexico, Peru,

Cuba, Honduras, or Haiti.

7. American-born white Christians desiring to reach, attract, serve, nurture, assimilate, disciple, challenge, and equip for ministry adults who are (a) American-born blacks, (b) Caribbean-born blacks, and (c) African-born blacks must recognize the great difficulty in organizing one congregation that is able to attract and assimilate adults from all three of those demographic cohorts. The two highly visible exceptions tend to be (a) very large congregations with a long-tenured senior pastor and (b) the small church served by a long-tenured pastor who excels as a loving shepherd. With American-born blacks, ethnic identity has replaced the call of the early 1960s for racial integration: that is why black “separationists” outnumber black “integrationists” by at least ten to one.

8. One highly visible line of demarcation within America’s ethnic minority population is between the “integrationists” and the “separationists” in marriage. The number of bicultural married couples has been increasing in recent years.



Church leaders whose congregations move beyond “hope is our only strategy” to an effective multicultural ministry recognize that those eight contemporary realities provide the context for planning in the American Protestant congregation, or denomination, in which the vast majority of today’s members trace their ancestry back to Western Europe.

We see the relevance of those assumptions when we observe seven effective multicultural-congregation models in contemporary America:

1. The congregation served by a pastor in a bicultural marriage that focuses on reaching other couples in a bicultural marriage. The white wife married to a black husband explained that the primary reason they chose this congregation was, “Our children were being teased at school about their parents. We want them to experience a social setting in which bicultural marriage is the norm, not the exception.”

2. The multisite missionary church in which the predominantly Anglo congregation launches a second site served by an associate pastor born and reared in Guatemala and a third site served by an associate pastor born and reared in Nigeria. The organizational structure declares, “This is a multicultural congregation with one name, one membership roster, one governing board, one budget, one staff, one budget, and three sites.”

3. Perhaps the most common model in American Christian congregations has been the Anglo congregation with a Christian Day School (kindergarten through eighth grade) that implements an aggressive effort to enroll a larger proportion of immigrant and ethnic minority children. The operational assumption is, “The parents will follow their children.” This model is most effective in reaching and assimilating parents with upward mobility ambitions for their children.

4. A relatively new, but growing, model implemented by the predominantly Anglo congregation meeting in a building that includes three different rooms for the corporate worship of God. In one church’s expression of this model, the first hour of the Sunday morning schedule is *three different worship experiences*: one in English, one in Arabic, and one in Korean. Following those three simultaneous worship services, the second hour is integrated Sunday school classes for all ages. The third hour provides one worship service in Spanish, one in English, and one in Mandarin.

5. Another growing model originated more than a century ago in American church history. Rather than rely on *geographical boundaries* for defining the regional denominational structure, this model places the top priority on *affinity*. For example, several of the regional judicatories within the denomination’s national structure *overlap geographically*: one regional judicatory is for congregations composed of recent immigrants from Korea; a second regional denominational structure is for congregations of American-born members who trace their ancestry back to Western Europe; a third structure is for self-identified theologically

“liberal” congregations; a fourth structure is for self-identified theologically “evangelical” churches; a fifth regional judicatory was organized for recent immigrants from China; a sixth is for American-born blacks who place a high value on self-governance; and a seventh is for persons born and reared in Mexico.

6. A growing recent trend is when the immigrant congregation, now composed largely of American-born adults who are the children of earlier immigrants, decides to unite with an Anglo congregation. Both have recognized that their current facilities, often on an inadequate site, have placed a low ceiling on future growth. One way to mobilize the resources required to provide better physical facilities at a larger site is to merge and together write a new chapter in their history.

7. The model most difficult to implement is an attempt to launch a new mission designed to reflect a high degree of demographic diversity accompanied by an affirmation of theological pluralism.

How can we transform a collection of people—*individuals who differ from one another in several respects*—into a closely knit, cohesive, and unified congregation? One or both of two strategies are most likely to be effective:

1. Identify a common enemy and rally the people together to defeat that common enemy.

2. Minimize the differences among people by conceptualizing this congregation as a collection—not of individuals, but of several relatively homogeneous small groups of seven-to-thirty-five persons per group—in which each group shares several points of commonality. Examples of these points of commonality include (a) loyalty to a Christian Day School, (b) bicultural marriages, (c) widespread admiration of and strong support for the long-tenured pastor, (d) the same first language, (e) similar age and marital status, (f) the same stage in their personal faith journey, (g) the same gender and/or marital status, (h) a shared preference for the same type of worship experience, (i) spending ten days every year in a volunteer team engaged in doing ministry with fellow Christians in a sister church on another continent, and (j) regular active participation as members of a missional team engaged in helping to alleviate world hunger or sheltering the homeless or some other non-divisive social justice ministry.

Summary: The larger number of (a) “points of commonality” and/or (b) “choices” a congregation offers, the better its chances of becoming multicultural.

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December 2009 - Volume 17, Number 12

Cynthia Woolever

Are We a Leader-Sending Congregation?

“While I was growing up,” a pastor said, “more than a dozen kids from our church entered seminary. In a neighboring congregation—the same size and denomination—not a single person has entered preparation for ministry during the last forty years.”

“Why is that?” his friend asked. “Why do some churches nurture so many future pastors—while others never do?”

Sending-Congregation Character Traits

New research in 434 churches profiles the characteristics of sending congregations.¹ In 35 percent of those congregations, one of their members entered seminary during the past five years. Those sending congregations possess a “culture of calling” that makes them different from the other congregations in seven major ways.

1. Disciple Magnets. Membership size is *not* the driving force behind incubating future pastors. Sending congregations are, on average, slightly larger than non-sending congregations. But the size difference between pastor-producing congregations and no-pastor-produced congregations is not great.

Growth rate is a much more pronounced trait among sending congregations. The average worship attendance in non-sending congregations increased about 3 percent each year. Worship attendance in sending churches grew, on average, more than 10 percent a year!

Another big difference between the two church types: the percentage of worshipers who assert that their congregation is “moving in new directions.”

Growth rate and future-focus illustrate that something remarkable is happening in sending churches. Potential clergy can get the impression that ministry is exciting.

2. Financially Healthy. Non-sending congregations are three times more likely to describe their financial base as “declining.” Forty percent of sending churches describe their financial base as “increasing” and 53 percent of them describe it as “stable.”

More people hear the call to ministry in places where mission resources are readily available. Fewer hear the call in churches that operate in maintenance mode or struggle to soldier on.

3. Relationally Healthy. Non-sending congregations report more than twice as much church conflict that led to a pastor’s departure. Congregations that produce no future ministers also report more conflict that sent members scurrying for the exit.

4. Leader Trainers. Sending congregations create more leadership-development opportunities for *both young people and adults*.

These churches are more likely to involve teens in leading worship services—speaking, Scripture reading, singing, or performing (in 65 percent of sending congregations versus only 49 percent of non-sending congregations). Attendees in these churches more often describe worship as alive and spontaneous.

Sending congregations also offer considerably more religious education for youth, age twelve through eighteen, *and* adults than do non-sending churches. Thus, many adults in these churches hear God’s call to ministry in the second, third, or fourth chapter of their lives.



5. Local Mission Focus. The breadth and depth of sending congregations' local community involvement offers the clearest distinctive trait. Local mission efforts give future ministers first-hand experience with alleviating suffering and social injustice. For example, these congregations are more likely to provide...

- counseling or support groups
- prison or jail ministries
- substance abuse groups
- housing or crisis shelters for senior citizens, the homeless, and youth
- community or neighborhood action groups
- programs for children and youth
- emergency relief
- other welfare, community service, or social activities

In these circumstances, future pastors cannot miss ministry's relevancy to the larger world.

6. Pastor Mentors. Sending-congregation clergy spend significantly more hours every week training people for ministry and mission than do clergy in other churches. Week after week, large numbers of members experience quality interactions with their key clergyperson.

People who seriously consider the call to ministry must identify with the pastor they know. The research points to clergy traits worthy of emulation. If a pastor (a) exudes enthusiasm and satisfaction with ministry, (b) says and shows that ministry gives life meaning and purpose, (c) expresses gratitude for being in ministry, and (d) feels that he or she has accomplished worthwhile things as a result of that ministry—then ministry as a life vocation becomes attractive to others.

Sending-church pastors model Frederick Buechner's portrayal of vocation: "The place God calls you to is where your deep gladness and the world's deep hunger meet."²

7. Theology of Call. Sending congregations cannot be described as theologically conservative, liberal, or even middle of the road. Rather, their theology of vocation expects that God calls everyone, every day, to ministry. "We are a place where people hear God's call" is central to congregational identity.

Members know the church's ministerial lineage—the names and stories of all those who have been sent out, even if they've never personally met them. When these sons and daughters make return visits, they experience a family-reunion-style welcome. The congregation lives the motto, "Once one of us—always one *from* us."

The Bottom Line: In his New Testament letters, the Apostle Paul refers to Timothy, an early church leader, as his "own son in the faith."

As churches increase the number and strength of these seven character traits, they increase the number of son and

daughter "Timothys" they send.

As churches decrease the number and strength of these seven character traits, they decrease the number of son and daughter "Timothys" they send.

Develop Sending-Congregation Traits

Churches of all sizes can teach and practice ministry training. They can provide internships—paid or unpaid—to help people learn what gifts they may have for ministry. One church alleges that it holds the world record for "first sermons" preached in its pulpit. Another congregation proudly upholds its record as the "first church" for more than a dozen of its denomination's most influential leaders. One small church takes pride in its well-earned reputation as an extremely positive setting for a student pastor's "first call" to a congregation.

Churches of all sizes can celebrate a "Call to Ministry Sunday." On this day each year, the congregation honors all of its Timothys, former ministers, missionaries, and current seminarians as local heroes. Clergy can share their call to ministry story. Members can be an ongoing prayer guild for those they sent out for ministry.

Churches of all sizes can set aside annual funds, or establish endowments, for financial assistance to seminary students. Some churches also make funds available for college students who plan to enter seminary. Congregations can develop a relationship with one or more of their denomination's seminaries by inviting faculty to preach or teach in their congregation. These relationships form bridges that make the individual's transition from a nurturing congregation to seminary training seem less formidable.

The Secret—Just Ask

Pastor Lillian Daniel³ tells a story about how a group of investigators searched for a sending church's secret.

The secret turned out to be one character—an elderly church matriarch. She singled out young people she felt had the gifts for ministry. Then, she asked them to consider God's call.

Daniel concludes: "Someone was asking people to consider the call. That's why it was a calling church."

¹ Kevin Spears and Deborah Bruce, based on the U.S. Congregational Life Survey (www.USCongregations.org). See also "Elements of a Call" (www.thefund.org/programs/congregations).

² Frederick Buechner, *Listening to Your Life* (New York: HarperCollins, 1992).

³ Lillian Daniel, "Called and Sent Out: Congregations That Nurture Future Ministers," *The Christian Century*, February 21, 2006.



CLEVELAND CHRISTIAN HOME

CHRISTMAS WISHES 2009

ELECTRONICS

Portable Radio w/CD Player
MP3 or CD Players w/Headphones
DVD Players
DVDs - rated G, PG or PG-13
Hand Held Electronic Games - sports, trivia, etc.
Batteries (D/C/AA/AAA/9V)

HOUSEWARES & SUPPLIES

Duffel Bags, Backpacks for older teens
Cribs and Car Seats (2006 or newer)
Comforters, Blankets & Sheets (for Twin-size beds)
Pots & Pans/Dish Sets/Plastic Cups/Silverware

Small Appliances:

Space Heaters, Toasters, Small Microwaves, Clock Radios,
Electric Fans, Irons, Hair Dryers, Cordless Phones,
Answering Machines, Coffee Makers, etc.

GAMES & TOYS

Footballs, Basketballs, Pumps
Yu-Gi-Oh! and Pokemon Cards
Remote Control Cars and Hot Wheels Brand Cars
Family Board Games for ages 8 and up:
Chess, Checkers, Dominoes, Yahtzee, Risk, Clue,
Monopoly, Mancala, Battleship, Life, Scrabble, etc.
Snap-Together Models: K-Nex, Legos,
Bionicals - boys 10-16
Leap Frog Learning Games and Memory Games
Art Supplies, Stickers for boys and girls
Decks of Cards and Card Games - Uno, etc.
Action Figures (Hulk, Batman, Ninja Turtles, etc.)

HOLIDAY ITEMS

Extra-Large Paper Gift Bags
Large Holiday Plastic Bags (39-gal. size)
Wrapping Paper & Scotch Tape

CLOTHING

Winter Coats - Men & Women's sizes (for our teens)
Clothing for Teens, esp. plus-sizes
Shoes, Tennis Shoes, Boots (Timberland, etc.)
Socks, Underwear, Boxer Shorts (no briefs, please)
Hooded Sweatshirts, Children's Winter Boots & Coats

BOOKS & WRITING

Journals, especially for teenage boys
Series for young readers by R.L. Stine,
J.K. Rowling, Lemony Snicket, C.S.Lewis, etc.

GIFT CERTIFICATES

Target, Walmart, K-Mart
McDonald's (for field trips), Giant Eagle

*** Please, no stuffed animals
or dolls this year!**

*Important reminders
from Santa:*

- 1. Gifts should be new.**
- 2. Please do not wrap!**
All wrapped gifts will be opened. We welcome gifts in open gift bags.
- 3. Please leave price tags on items!** This will help us accurately report your donation for tax purposes.
- 4. Please bring gifts to 11401 Lorain Avenue by Friday, Dec 11th.**
- 5. Please give advance notice of large donations by calling: 216/476-0333.**





CLEVELAND CHRISTIAN HOME

SPONSORING CHRISTMAS WISHES 2009

Cleveland Christian home has been bringing hope and healing to children, youth and families struggling to overcome mental illness, abuse and neglect for over 100 years. Every Christmas, CCH gathers wishes from over 400 individuals, from newborns to young adults across our spectrum of programs, including Residential Treatment, Independent Living, School- and Community-Based services, and System of Care. These children and families are with CCH because they have been or are experiencing abuse, neglect, and grinding poverty. Our Christmas wish program not only provides CCH clients with special gifts they would not otherwise have, it also demonstrates that people care about them -- a radical change from their normal experience. In a world where their parents or guardians are unable to care for them appropriately, children and teens often feel that no one could ever care. Receiving gifts from the community helps those in our programs to understand that they are deserving of attention, respect, and love.

How does it work?

By sponsoring an individual's wish list, you are agreeing to fill all of their wishes. If you prefer to provide fewer items, or items of a particular kind (clothing, toys, housewares, etc.), please refer to our General Christmas Wish List.

The most common procedure for fulfilling a wish list is to have one person coordinate a group of co-workers or friends. Many businesses, churches, civic organizations and individuals sponsor children from Cleveland Christian Home. Some groups do this by distributing ornaments on a giving tree, others ask friends and colleagues to purchase one item each. Some groups choose to sponsor one child, and others sponsor twenty. We are happy to work with you, however many children you would like to help.

What does a wish list look like?

Here's an example:

Ezekiel S.

Program: Family Services

Age: 5 Gender: Male

Clothing Need 1: Coat; Size 8

Clothing Need 2: Long Johns or thermals; Size 8

Clothing Need 3: Socks; Size M

Wish 1: Art Supplies

Wish 2: Basketball

Wish 3: Picture Books

There are many variations in the length and items on children's wish lists.

Please call with any questions: 216/476-0333

THANK YOU!

Important reminders from Santa:

1. Gifts should be new.

2. Please do not wrap!

All wrapped gifts will be opened. We welcome gifts in open gift bags.

3. Please leave price tags on items! This will help us accurately report your donation for tax purposes.

4. Please bring gifts to 11401 Lorain Avenue by Monday, Dec 11th.

5. Please give advance notice of large donations by calling: 216/476-0333.





Christian Church in Ohio

D I S C I P L E S O F C H R I S T

A covenant network of congregations in mission:

We are the Body of Christ gifted and called in covenant together as Disciples of Christ to be centers of transformation on the new mission frontier of our own communities.

TO: Pastors and/or Youth Directors

FROM: Brenda Webster

Enclosed in this packet is information about the 2010 Ohio CYF Mid-Winter Retreats. The cycle for Regional CYF events is for a state CYF convention to be held in alternating years with Mid-Winter retreats. The Convention is for youth from all four CYF Conferences. Mid-Winter retreats are for each individual Conference, held in a church in the geographic area of the Conference. Youth and adults spend most of the time at the church building and are hosted in the homes of church members for sleeping.

The purpose of these retreats is to give youth a chance to be together for the weekend in a Christian retreat setting with youth from other Disciples churches in their area. We hope they will *build relationships* with these youth and want to return to CYF Conference at Camp Christian in the summer. In addition, the study is: *"Conflict: Managing Stress In Your Life."* We will challenge the youth in four study sessions to consider how they manage conflicts in their lives and how to identify the opportunities that conflicts present.

Each retreat will include a Saturday afternoon service project for all participants. Your contact person will have more information if you need it ahead of time.

You will find in this packet:

1. A Color Flyer – **to be hung up** on a church bulletin board **and** in the youth room.
2. Registration form/medical info form - copy and give to each youth.
3. Housing form - You should include names of all youth who plan to attend and who need home housing for the weekend on this form.
4. District CYF Officer nomination form. We will hold district officer elections at the retreats. Please nominate a responsible and committed youth from your church for District office by returning this form with your registration forms. District officers help to plan district events, and are invited to attend the CYF Youth Council meeting in April at Camp Christian. State officers are elected from among these youth.

Remember that ALL REGISTRATION FORMS, MONEY AND HOUSING FORMS SHOULD BE MAILED TO **CHRISTIAN CHURCH IN OHIO** NO LATER THAN 2 WEEKS BEFORE YOUR RETREAT.

I hope you understand the details of these events now. PLEASE get this information to your high school youth and encourage them to attend. If you are not able to photocopy registration information, please let me know and we will send you additional copies. Please make every effort to have your youth included in this event. It will be a wonderful weekend, and it won't happen without your support!

Finally, IF YOU NEED ANY OTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT ME at 614-433-0343 or bwebster@ccinoh.org. **GOD BE WITH YOU IN YOUR CRUCIAL MINISTRY WITH YOUTH IN YOUR CHURCH!**



Christian Church in Ohio

DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

*A covenant network of congregations in mission:
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CYF Mid-Winter

Conflict: *Managing Stress In Your Life*



We all have conflict!

**Conflict with Relationships,
Authority, Ourselves, and even
God. How do we manage these
conflicts, and how do we see
the opportunities that our
conflicts reveal to us?**



Plan now to attend your CYF Mid-Winter!

Phyo – February 5-7

Community Christian Church, North Canton

Wilmington – February 19-21

Mount Healthy Christian Church, Cincinnati

Hiram – March 5-7

Westlake Christian Church, Westlake

Lakeside – March 19-21

First Christian Church, Paulding

**See your Youth
Director or
Pastor for more
information!!**

Or go to

www.ccinoh.org

OHIO CYF 2010 MID-WINTER YOUTH RETREATS

Cost: \$50.00 Youth \$30.00 Adults

Registration deadline is 10 days before the event. A \$10.00 late fee applies to all Youth and Adults after the deadline. CCIIO Refund Policy is in effect for this retreat. A \$30.00 processing fee will be retained on all refund requests.

PHYO February 5 - 7 (Deadline - January 26)

Community Christian Church
210 N Main St, North Canton, OH 44720-2589
Church # - (330) 499-5458

*Nicole Curet, nicole.curet@gmail.com, (330)316-5909

WILMINGTON February 19 - 21 (Deadline - February 9)

Mount Healthy Christian Church
7717 Harrison Ave, Cincinnati, OH 45231-3196
Church # - (513) 521-6029

*Albert Brantley, abrantley_53@yahoo.com, (513)325-5984

HIRAM March 5 - 7 (Deadline - February 23)

Westlake Christian Church
25800 Hilliard Blvd, Westlake, OH 44145-3397
Church # - (440) 871-2400

*Meredyth McKenzie, mckenzie.meredyth@gmail.com, (440)503-0534

LAKESIDE March 19 - 21 (Deadline - March 9)

First Christian Church
1233 Emerald Road, Paulding, OH 45879-0330
Church # - (419) 399-4576

* Mary Jo Bray, revmj@hotmail.com, (419)388-9274

** = Contact Person for this Mid-Winter*

Send all Paperwork & Payments to Christian Church in Ohio

355 East Campus View Blvd
Suite 110
Columbus, Ohio 43235

- All forms must be completed in full for registration.
- Remember to have your minister or youth advisor sign your application. **This form will not be accepted without it!**

Questions? Call Brenda Webster at (614) 433-0343 OR email: bwebster@ccinoh.org



Christian Church in Ohio

D I S C I P L E S O F C H R I S T

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2010 CYF MID-WINTER REGISTRATION

CONFERENCE _____ DATE _____

_____ YOUTH _____ ADULT ADVISOR

** (One Adult Advisor **MUST** Accompany Every Ten Youth)*

NAME _____

GENDER: _____ DOB: _____ GRADE: _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PRIMARY PHONE: (_____) _____

EMAIL _____

YOUR CHURCH _____

ROOM MATE PREFERENCE _____

***ENDORSEMENT OF MINISTER / YOUTH ADVISOR. THIS FORM WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED WITHOUT SIGNATURE.**

NAME _____ DATE _____

Space below for Contact Person's Use Only

Housing Assignment _____

Adult Advisor in Attendance _____

Special _____

HEALTH INFORMATION AND PARENT'S CONSENT FORM FOR HOSPITAL AND MEDICAL PROCEDURE FOR MINORS

(Must be completed in full)

*PLEASE PRINT

State law requires your consent for medical treatment and procedures as deemed necessary in case of an emergency. Please read this form carefully and fill it in completely. Ask about anything that you do not understand.

I, _____ do hereby
(Parent or Legal Guardian)

authorize emergency treatment by a qualified physician or dentist for my son/daughter _____
(Name)

during the period _____ to _____
(Date) (Date)

In case of an emergency during this period, I hereby grant permission for my son/daughter to be treated at an area hospital.

Family physician is Dr. _____

Address _____

Phone including area code:(_____)_____

Family dentist is Dr. _____

Address _____

Phone including area code:(_____)_____

I hereby certify that the applicant is in good physical condition and is able to participate in the recreational activities of the Mid-Winter Youth Meet. Exceptions to this are indicated below.

Signature _____
(Parent or Legal Guardian)

Relationship _____ Date _____

ALLERGIES _____

Medication now being taken _____

Last Tetanus Toxoid (if known) _____
(MONTH) (YEAR)

*Use additional sheet for any information that will not fit on this form.

Additional Parent/Legal Guardian Information

Youth are asked to turn off their cell phones during Mid-Winter. If you have an emergency and need to get a hold of your son/daughter please call Regional Program Minister, Brenda Webster at (614) 301-1973 or the Church where the Mid-Winter is being held. All of the Church numbers are listed on the opposite side of this sheet.

All Host Families are required to submit the Voluntary Disclosure Statement form in advance of the Mid-Winter. To see a blank copy of this form contact ccio@ccino.org.

Please Note: There is no assigned nurse to CYF Mid-Winters, therefore, if your son/daughter is taking any medication during Mid-Winter, they are fully responsible for administering it to themselves. If you have a concern about this, you must contact Brenda Webster in advance of the retreat. She can be reached at bwebster@ccino.org or (614)433-0343.

I understand the above additional information _____
(Parent/Guardian Initials)

The Rules of Mid-Winter Retreats are:

1. Be courteous at all times
2. Stay at the church or at assigned host home
3. NO SMOKING, ALCOHOL, ILLEGAL DRUGS, ELECTRONIC DEVICES, CELL PHONES, OR WEAPONS
4. Regardless of your relationship, do not enter into anyone else's personal space
5. All persons at all activities
6. Go directly from church to the home of the host
7. No parties
8. Use clean speech
9. Wear appropriate clothing – remember to ask, “How am I reflecting the image of God by what I wear?”
10. Youth who drive to Mid-Winter are required to turn in their keys at registration. They will be returned on Sunday.

I agree to follow these rules as a participant in the CYF Mid-Winter Retreat:

(Signature of participant)

CYF MID-WINTER HOUSING FORM 2010

CHURCH _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE NUMBER INCLUDING AREA CODE (_____) _____

Each church should fill out this form and mail it in along with their applications and monies to CHRISTIAN CHURCH IN OHIO for the Mid-Winter no later than ten (10) days before the meet.

PLEASE PRINT *name and address for each individual (adult and youth) – (Group roommate preferences together and mark them for host church)*

NAME	ROOMATE PREFERENCE	ADDRESS	AGE

Continued on the back if needed

DISTRICT C.Y.F. OFFICER NOMINATION FORM

To All District C.Y.F.'s,

The annual election of our District Officers will take place at the C.Y.F. Mid-Winters. We will not be taking nominations from the floor, so names of candidates must be received before each Mid-Winter. You and your congregation are encouraged to provide one or two nominations for these offices. Please send the nomination(s) to:

CHRISTIAN CHURCH IN OHIO
355 EAST CAMPUS VIEW BLVD
SUITE 110
COLUMBUS, OH 43235

NOMINEES MUST BE:

1. Of high Christian and moral character
2. Very active in your C.Y.F
3. Very active in your local congregation
4. Willing to serve and work for a year
5. A junior or sophomore in high school
6. Have the enthusiastic endorsement of your Minister and/or Youth Advisor

2010 DISTRICT C.Y.F. OFFICER NOMINATION FORM

Nominee's Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone Number (____) _____ E-mail _____

Nominee's Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone Number (____) _____ E-mail _____

Minister or Youth Advisor's Endorsement _____

Church _____ City _____



Christian Church in Ohio

D I S C I P L E S O F C H R I S T

A covenant network of congregations in mission:

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Ohio Spiritual Life Retreat for Ministers (Spouses and Retired Ministers and spouses are welcome) ***I went to the movies and found Grace!*** (*She was hiding behind the projector all along*)

February 23-25, 2010
Speaker: Chris & Kate Whitehead

The Herald B. Monroe Lodge
Camp Christian, Magnetic Springs, Ohio

The Regional Spiritual Life Committee invites you to join us for the annual Spiritual Life Retreat. Regular registration deadline is February 1, 2010. Cost is \$135.00 per person, double occupancy, all meals included. Any registration received after February 1st including onsite will be \$150.00. **Registration = Registered and Paid. Refund Policy:** A \$30.00 processing fee will be retained by CCIO on all refund requests. **Checks to be made payable to:** Christian Church in Ohio 355 E. Campus View Blvd. Ste 110 Columbus, Ohio 43235 or you can register online by visiting the region's website at www.ccinoh.org.

Mail to: Christian Church in Ohio
355 E. Campus View Blvd. Ste 110
Columbus, Ohio 43235

Note: If unable to attend, you are invited to be in prayer support during the time of the retreat. Please email Kay McGlinchey at kmcglinchey@genderroadcc.com if you will be in prayer.

Spiritual Life Retreat

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Please Circle: Home or Cell

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Roommate Preference: _____

Church: _____ City: _____

DOB: _____ Email: _____

*I Went to the Movies and Found Grace!
(She was hiding behind the projector all along)*

A Reel Spirituality in the Real World

Retreat Refereed by Chris and Kate Whitehead of FCC Mansfield, OH

*Join us for a few days of rest, relaxation, laughter and tears as we seek God's fingerprints on films long and short, old and current, sad and comical. We'll watch some movies together (popcorn included) and share insights (without letting the gathering become too much like homework). We'll be led in worship by some of our favorite film scenes, including our closing worship, in which we will commune with the cast of *Places in the Heart*. Hope to see you there!*

Chris & Kate Whitehead

Retreat participants are asked to bring a favorite snack and/or drinks to share with the group. **Also bring any of your favorite resources or books on spirituality, which you use and might recommend.** Be prepared to write. Be prepared to walk if you are able. Be prepared to listen deeply to one another. Be prepared to rest.

Camp Christian is the Ohio Region's Camp Facility, located about eight miles west of Delaware, Ohio and about a mile from Magnetic Springs. The Herald B. Monroe Lodge has twenty rooms each with two single beds. Guests will need to furnish their own bedding, towels and toiletries. Guests share rest rooms and showers conveniently located near their rooms. The lodge is handicap accessible. Meals are served in the Howard Ratcliff Dining Hall just a short distance from the Lodge. The camp phone number is (937) 348-2811. **Dress for the retreat is casual.**

Directions to Camp Christian

From Akron, take 76 west to 71 south to the Delaware exit that says Route 36 and 37. At the traffic light turn right.

Follow Route 36-37 into Delaware where 37 will bear to the right. Bear to the right and stay on 37. Keep straight through Delaware. Route 37 will bear to the left. Follow the sign saying Magnetic Springs. Stay on Route 37 for approximately 8 miles. Immediately after seeing the Union County Line, the very next road to the right is Maple Dell Road. Camp Christian is on Maple Dell Road which is next to the cemetery. Turn right into Camp Christian. The Herald B. Monroe Lodge will be back a long lane to your left.

From Columbus take 71 north to the Delaware exit and turn left. Follow the above directions.

2010

Spiritual But Not Religious: Problem or Opportunity?



January 25 and 26
Crowne Plaza Columbus North Hotel
6500 Doubletree Avenue, Columbus

Speakers

Dr. John C. Green



Dr. John C. Green is director of the Ray C. Bliss Institute of Applied Politics at the University of Akron, a post he has held since 1988. He is Distinguished Professor of Political Science at

the University of Akron. Prior to joining the University of Akron, he taught Political Science at Furman University.

Dr. Green received his Ph.D. in Political Science from Cornell University and his B.A. in Economics from the University of Colorado.

Dr. Green has done extensive research on American religion and politics, political parties, and campaign finance. He is a Senior Fellow with the Pew Forum on Religion and Public Life. Dr. Green is well published.

Titles of his talks are:

1. *Religion and Spirituality: A View from the Polls.*
2. *Spiritual but Religious: Attitudes and Opinions.*

The Rev. Dr. Linda Mercadante



The Rev. Dr. Linda Mercadante, is the B. Robert Straker Professor of Theology at the Methodist Theological School in Ohio. She has a passion for the intersection of

theology and culture. Dr. Mercadante has served as a Visiting Scholar in Media and Theology at the University of Edinburgh. She has published four books and numerous articles.

Dr. Mercadante lectures widely, gives retreats and enjoys conducting adult education seminars in churches. She leads workshops in spiritual autobiography, addiction recovery, and the faith/film paradigm. Her most recent project is researching contemporary persons who self-identify as “spiritual but not religious.”

Titles of her talks are:

1. *Meeting the ‘Spiritual but Not Religious’*
2. *What Can Organized Religion Do?*

Options

Five "Options" (in lieu of workshops) on Monday afternoon:

1. **Soup for the Soul: Spirituality—Losing my Religion** — A conversation with students from Ohio University.
2. **The Taize Experience** — Worship and prayer out of the Taize movement, led by the Rev. Jon Siehl, parish associate at Overbrook Presbyterian Church.
3. **Walk the Labyrinth** — A labyrinth will be set up for anyone who wishes to take the time and practice this prayer discipline.
4. **12 Step Spirituality** — Members of twelve step programs will share their experience of the spiritual within such groups.
5. **From Mainline Church to Orthodoxy** — Conversation with a young adult on his spiritual quest. The Rev. Jeff Myers, Prince of Peace Presbyterian Church and Mr. Kyle Hofmeister.

Luncheons

January 25, 2010 — Crowne Plaza Hotel

Please make advanced registration for these luncheons with the contact person listed.

Christian Theological Seminary — Charles Webb, Jr. at 317-931-2312.

SemCon 2009 — Ohio's United Methodist Seminaries and Conferences gather for food and fellowship. Mary Ann Hirsch, at 419-798-4461, Ext. 248.

United Church of Christ and Christian Church in Ohio, (Disciples of Christ) — Partnership Luncheon - Joyce Decker at 614-885-0722, ext. 75.

Synod of the Covenant, PC (U.S.A.) — Dagmar Romage at 614-847-0565. Margaret Haney, Interim Synod Executive will speak on: "O Synod, What are Thou"?

Schedule

Monday, January 25

- 9:00 Registration, Refreshments, Visit Vendors
- 10:00 Welcome, Introductions Morning Worship
- 10:45 Plenary, *Dr. John Green*
- Noon Denominational Luncheons (to attend, contact your denomination, see bottom, left panel), or On Your Own
- 1:30 Plenary, *Rev. Dr. Linda Mercadante*
- 2:45 Visit Vendors
- 3:00 Options
- 4:15 Break, Visit Vendors
- 5:00 Convocation Dinner
Rev. Dr. Arleon L. Kelley
Sr. Dr. Lorelei F. Fuchs
- 7:00 Worship—Worthington UMC,
Sr. Dr. Lorelei F. Fuchs

Tuesday, January 26

- 8:30 Registration, Refreshments, Visit Vendors
- 9:00 Plenary, *Dr. John Green*
- 10:00 Break
- 10:15 Plenary, *Rev. Dr. Linda Mercadante*
- 11:15 Talk-Back with Keynoters
- 11:45 Closing Worship
- 12:30 Adjournment

Worship

The Rev. Dr. Henry J. Langknecht, Trinity Lutheran Seminary, will serve as worship leader for the Convocation.



Continuing Education

Certificates will be included in the registration packet for full participation.



Change of Venue



Crowne Plaza Cols. North

Overnight rooms have been reserved at a rate of \$79.00 plus tax for Single/Double at the **Crowne Plaza Columbus North**, 6500 Doubletree Avenue, Columbus. To receive this rate, please identify yourself as a participant of the Ohio Ministries Convocation, by calling the hotel directly at 1/800-227-6963 or 614/885-1885. When you check out you would need to have your church Tax Exemption form in order to receive an exemption. Deadline for registration is 1/11/2010. For directions, go to:

www.CrownePlaza.com/ColumbusNorth



"Going Into Our 91st Year" Dinner and Worship

In celebration of 90 plus years of Ecumenical Ministry in the State of Ohio

Dinner—5:00 p.m., Crowne Plaza Hotel with the *Rev. Dr. Arleon L. Kelley*, UM, former Associate Director of the Ohio Council of Churches, retired Executive Director of the NY State Community of Churches.

Worship— 7:00 p.m., Worthington United Methodist Church, 600 High St., Worthington, with *Sr. Dr. Lorelei F. Fuchs*, SA, Theological Consultant at the Interchurch Center, NY and member of the Society of the Atonement.

Registration

Name: _____

Spouse (if attending): _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ St. ____ Zip: _____

E-Mail: _____

Denomination: _____

Phone: _____

Please Note: All registrations include dinner on Monday.

Full Registration: \$155 __ Retired \$85 __

Spouse, \$85 __ Life Member, \$85 __

Monday only \$85 __ Tuesday only \$85 __

Seminarian \$55 __ First Timer \$55 __

Additional tax deductible gift of: \$ _____ in celebration of **90 years** of ministry!

Total Enclosed: _____

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: JANUARY 15, 2010

Please make all checks payable to:

The Ohio Council of Churches
6230 Busch Boulevard, Suite 430
Columbus, OH 43229-1879
www.ohcouncilchs.org
614-885-9590

Secure online credit card registration at

www.ohcouncilchs.org/convocation/