



The Buckeye Disciple

Christian Church in Ohio
DISCIPLES OF CHRIST
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

Volume 16, Number 2

March/April 2007



Help Build Shalom

The 2007 Delegation to Chile consisted of myself (Jonathan Rumburg), Brittany Striklen, Clint Messner, of First Christian Church, and Kendra Matvey from High Street Christian Church. Together we traveled to the cities of Santiago, Talca, San Clemente, points in be-

tween, and of course we traveled to the Shalom Center. We were greeted and welcomed by Chilean friends, brothers and sisters in Christ, and embraced as if we were long lost family. Truthfully, it's hard to explain this trip to people. I can say that it's a mission trip, like going to church camp, or that it's a work trip, but really it's more. This trip to Chile is about building Shalom for the people of God. That is why as coordinator I entitled this trip "Help Build Shalom." We would be physically working on, improving, and building up the Shalom Center, but we would also be building relationships between the Christian Church in Ohio and the Pentecostal Church of Chile. We would be building up the body of the church universal between brothers and sisters of Christ who don't even speak the same language. They would need to be prepared to be uncomfortable because what they were about to do was going to stretch them in ways that they had never been stretched before. Ways that would be trying and difficult at times, but ways that would reveal to them things about themselves and about their faith they had not yet discovered or experienced within them. They needed to be prepared to be uncomfortable in the physical sense, but also in a spiritual sense as well. For instance, Clint would need to be prepared to be uncomfortable in the physical sense because he would be the largest man in the entire country, a country that is built and designed for people half his size. Add to that the work to be done would be physically taxing and often times tedious. Just ask Brittany about the hours spent trying to trim back the Andean forest seeking to overgrown the already barely accessible road to the Shalom Center, or see what Kendra has to say about her hours painting an oil base sealant onto the Welcome House at the Shalom Center. Not to mention we would be walking and hiking up some very large mountains. Then there was the need to be prepared to be uncomfortable spiritually. The Pentecostal Church of Chile is much louder and much more exuberant in their style of worship than any church any of us had ever been in. The dozens of instruments and loud interactive singing would be dramatically different from our style of worship. If they were prepared to be uncomfortable, then when such instances of uncomfortable-ness did happen, the opportunity for God's revelation through such a unique opportunity would not be missed. Having made this trip twice before, I was well aware of what it could do to and for a person. So I asked them to seek out and answer one simple question, "Why are you here?" Any of us could have answered that question very easily. "I wanted to

Continued on page 5

2007 Camps/Conferences

June 8 – 9

Grandparents Camp

June 8 – 10

Camp Good Hope, (Bereavement Camp)

June 10 – 16

Hocking Chi Rho Camp

June 17 – 23

Cuyahoga, Chi Rho Camp

June 17 – 23

Otter Partnership Camp

June 18 – 22,

Adult Conference

Northwest Christian Church, Columbus

June 24 – 30

Hiram, CYF Conference

July 1 - 7

Phyo CYF Conference

July 8 – 14

Badger Partnership Camp
Templed Hills UCC Camp

July 8 – 14

Portage Chi Rho Camp

July 15 – 21

Backpack Camp

Contact Rev. Steve Bentley for more information.

July 15 – 21

Maumee Chi Rho Camp

July 22 – 28

Beaver Partnership Camp
Templed Hills UCC Camp

July 22 – 28

Lakeside CYF Conference

July 29 – August 4

Wilmington CYF Conference

August 5 – 11

Miami Chi Rho Camp

August 12 – 19

Advance Conference

Register for these and other events online at

www.ccinoh.org



Spiritual Insights Rev. Dr. William H. Edwards

"This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you." – John 15:12 In my personal devotional time this Lenten season, this scripture has been very meaningful. I believe these words contain the heart of the Christian faith, when Jesus tells his disciples to "love one another as I have loved you". Love is the deepest possible expres-

sion of the personality of God. In other words, God is Love and God seeks to be in a love relationship with us. God longs and desires the devotion of our hearts. Even from the beginning of time. When God even reached into divine imagination and create a place in Africa called Eden, where God placed God's creation because God loved us. The Bible is a love story, a story of God reaching out to save humanity. From Genesis to Revelation, the redemption story of the Bible is about God trying to establish an intimate and true relationship with humanity motivated by love. Our faith calls us to "love one another as God and Christ has loved us". For it is only through human relationships that we discover the living Christ fully. And only when we enter into life with Jesus Christ can we genuinely seek to care and love each other fully. When we commit ourselves to others in love, we begin to understand the love of God. When we grasp the love of God, our response is to offer our lives to God. When we give our lives to God, we live for others, placing their needs and concerns above our own. One must move out of one's self to love God completely. One must move from self-centeredness to God-centered. It is a dying to self so that the living God may take residence within us. We need to respond to God's gift of love by loving others. Even to the point where "you love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you." It is only when we receive the word of forgiveness that comes with God's love, that we can look at people that we know that have dug ditches for us, and talked about us and have back-stabbed us and hurt us deeply and we thought we would never get over it. But as we receive that word that informs us that as God has forgiven us and loved us, we have to forgive and love others. It is then that we can look at people who have done us wrong, and say I love you anyhow. "And there is nothing you can do about it". Love has the power to transform every type of human relationship. As Paul told the church at Corinth: - "Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It (love) bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends. - 1 Cor 13:3-13 We need start living a life style of love. The love we pay to others represents the love we owe to God, the respect we pay to others is a genuine respect for the holiness of God present in His people. We serve a God who loves. God so loved the world that God gave. God caused a portion of God's self to become flesh, and heaven announced that his name should be called Jesus. Yes, God shared- God so loved, and so shared, that whosoever believes, even now, in God's way of sharing and loving, shall discover a quality of life that shall not perish.

The Buckeye Disciple

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Stephen Bentley: Interim Associate Regional Pastor
Al Channell: Camp Christian Superintendent

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Jeff Wheeler: Chairperson Jim Rivers: Vice Chair
Bob Thornton: Secretary Joanne Howard: Assistant Secretary

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March 2007

- 1 Executive Committee @ RCO 10:00 am – 3:00pm
- 3 Anti Racism/Pro Reconciliation
- 3 Equipping the Saints @ Broad Street C.C.
- 6 New Ministers Orientation @ Camp Christian
- 7 Anti-Racism Training @ Camp Christian
- 7 Chi Rho Commission Conference Call
- 8 Sexual Ethics Training @ Camp Christian
- *9 – 11 CYF State Youth Convention @ Bethany College
- 10 Regional Cabinet Meeting @ Camp Christian
- 10 Ohio Disciples Outreach Meeting @ RCO 10 – 3
- 13 Regional Church Office Staff Meeting
- 16 – 18 OWM Commission Meeting @ Camp Christian
- 20 Commission on Ministry @ Northwest C.C.
- *21 – 22 UCC/DOC Partnership Workshop @ the RCO
- 23 – 24 Regional Church Council Meeting @ Camp Christian
- *30 – Apr 1 Advance Conference Spring Retreat @ Camp

April 2007

- 1 Deadline for The Buckeye Disciple May/June issue
- 6 **Good Friday, Regional Church Office closed**
- 8 **Easter Sunday**
- 11 Regional Church Office Staff Meeting & Easter Dinner
- 13 – 14 Youth Commission @ Camp Christian
- 14 Licensed Ministry Workshop @ East Columbus C.C.
- 17 Commission on Ministry @ Northwest C.C. 9:30am
- 17 Interim Ministries Working Group @ RCO 10 – 2
- *21 OWM Convocation @ Gender Road C.C.
- 21 Anti Racism Commission @ RCO 10:00am – 1:00pm
- 21 Licensed Ministry Workshop @ East Columbus C.C.
- 24 O.D.E.C. @ Regional Church Office
- 25 Camp Christian Committee Meeting @ Camp 10 am
- 27 Advance Conference Fundraiser @ South Side C.C.
- 28 – May 2 General Board Meeting, Indianapolis

May

- 5 CYF Counselors Training @ Camp Christian 10-3
- 8 Retired Ministers Retreat @ Camp Christian
- 8 Regional Church Office Staff Meeting
- 12 Camp Christian Committee @ Camp Christian
- 14 Hiram Counselors Training @ South Haven UCC 6-9
- 18 – 20 Disciple Men's Fellowship Spring Retreat @ Camp
- 21 Lakeside Counselors Training South Side, Lima 6-9
- 25 – 27 Disciples Fellowship Retreat @ Camp Christian
- 28 **Memorial Day Regional Church Office Closed**

June 2007

- *2 Youth Scholarship Golf Outing @ Scioto Reserve, Banquet Dinner to follow at Camp Christian
- 6 Wilmington Counselors Training @ FCC Wilmington
- 8 RCO/Camp Staff Meeting and Outing
- 8 – 9 Grandparent Camp @ Camp Christian
- *8 – 10 Camp Good Hope (Bereavement Camp) @ Camp
- 9 Anti Racism Commission @ North Canton Community Christian Church 10:00am – 1:00pm
- *10 - 16 Chi Rho Camp Hocking
- *17 - 23 Chi Rho Camp Cuyahoga
- *17 - 23 Partnership Camp Otter @ CAMP CHRISTIAN

* Indicates online registration is now available
RCO = Regional Church Office

Treasurer's Corner

One of our objectives is to act as a covenant network of congregations. To ensure we continue to build that relationship, communication is essential. In this issue of the Disciple I thought I would share five (5) Did You Know facts. If you have any questions on any of these, please call me at the Regional Office (614)-433-0343 or email me, draper@ccinoh.org

Did You Know the region participates in a partnership that effectively reduces the premiums we pay by as much as 70% to the Bureau of Workers Compensation? More importantly, did you know that each of our congregations can join in that partnership and reduce their costs by that much or possibly more?

Did you know that we increased attendance at our youth camps in 2006 by 9% over 2005? That equates to 84 more youth attending Camp Christian and Partnership camps than the previous year. We predict even further growth in 2007.

Did You Know that we have identified four (4) different capital purchases required for camp that we are hoping will be funded by donations from individuals and congregations? It's part of our program to fund capital expenses. These include a new truck, a tractor, boats and canoes for the lake, and a new sign for the entrance.

Did You Know that the first annual Youth Scholarship Event raised over \$4,000 in 2006 and that we are planning to double that amount in 2007? By the way, the Event is planned for June 2. You can participate in both the golf and dinner programs or join us for dinner only.

Did You Know that we have upgraded our Web site and that you can now register for Events online and use your credit cards for payments? We hope this makes the registration process simpler and more convenient for you. This is a secure and confidential process and was designed to protect its users. There has been a significant increase in the number of registrations using this service in the past 6 months.

In the next Disciple I plan to write about Camp Christian and the four strategies we are following to improve the financial results of this wonderful ministry. I would appreciate hearing from you, especially if you have topics you would like for me to write about.

Blessings,
Duncan Draper
Treasurer
Christian Church in Ohio



ADULT CONFERENCE

*"We are One in the Spirit:
Finding Unity in Diversity"*

June 18-22, 2007

It's our 70th Anniversary!

We hope you'll join us at

NORTHWEST

CHRISTIAN CHURCH



God!! Can You Hear Me Now?

Ohio Women's Ministries Convocation

Saturday, April 21, 2007

Keynote Speaker: Rev. Mary Jo Bray

Explore the power of prayer in our lives and in the Regional Church's mission and of transformational leadership.

Gender Road Christian Church

5336 Gender Road

Canal Winchester, Ohio

For registration information visit

www.ccinoh.org or see your pastor.

Specialty Camps this year

Bereavement Camp

This camp is for all youth K-12 who are experiencing issues of loss. Campers should be recommended by their pastors. This Camp will take place at Camp Christian from June 8-10, 2007. Register now and get the early bird rate of \$90.00. Register online or registration forms will be out soon.

Grandparent Camp

This camp will be a special time for youth entering the 1st or 2nd grade and a grandparent. Youth may bring more than one Grandparent, however One Grandparent may only bring one child. This is due to one on one activities that are planned for this week. This camp will take place at Camp Christian from June 8-9, 2007. Register now and get the early bird rate of \$90.00. Register online or registration forms will be out soon.

Backpack Camp

This camp is for all who are High School age or older. One of our Trail Leaders will be 81 so you are probably not too old. This trip will travel the southern most 40 miles of the Appalachian Trail in Virginia ending in Damascus, VA. Much of the trail is in the Mr. Rogers National Recreation Area and in one of the most beautiful areas on the trail. This trip is limited to 20 campers in order to have minimal impact to the trail. Campers must be in good physical condition and prepared to walk about 10 miles per day with a pack. Lessons for the week will be from the Wilderness Journeys of the early Hebrews as recorded in Exodus. July 8 - 14 Register now and get the early bird rate of \$205. Register Online or registration forms will be out soon.

Early Bird Rate for these and all summer camps/ conferences is May 1, 2007

Advance Conference Spring Retreat

Friday, March 30 – Sunday, April 1, 2007

LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION!

Part 2 - CAMERA:

It is sure to be a great weekend. This is a great time for the young adults in your church to share in fellowship and grow in their spirituality with other young adults from all over the state. Whether they went to CYF or have never been to Camp Christian before, Advance Conference is an affirming and welcoming group. We ask you to please share this information with all the young adults you know. As ministers we know that you are very busy and deal with many different things throughout the week so thank you for taking time and helping us get the word out. If there are any questions that you or the young adults have please don't hesitate to contact us

Chad Davis, normchs@aol.com, Erin Larsen, larsen926@yahoo.com, Bob Unger, runger@rocketmail.com

Also...

Just in case you haven't heard the Advance Conference Alumni (thats everyone that has ever been to Advance, currently an Advance Conferee, their families, friends and anyone else that you can drag along) are having a benefit concert! Friday April 27th, 2007 7:00 pm at Southside Christian Church in Lima, to raise funds to provide scholarships to Advanced Conferees. Some very special performers have already signed-up to be part of this festive evening! Also available that evening, camp photos from 1978-86 (plus a few other more recent photos) that have been scanned and are now available on CD and music from last years fundraiser is also available on CD. All the money collected goes to the Advance scholarship fund. Pass the word, bring a friend, join the fun! If you need more information or would like to perform please contact Randy Green at: 937-313-7182 or Jane Hilvers jehilvers@earthlink.net.

FCC Alliance Mission Trip

On January 13 First Christian Church of Alliance sent eight members and friends on a Mission Trip to Port Arthur, Texas, where they helped repair homes damaged by Hurricane Rita, which hit ten days after Hurricane Katrina. The trip was planned and led by Jill Smith, Director of Family Ministry. The group worked with the Southeast Texas Interfaith Organization (SETIO), which is in the process of repairing 800 homes. The trip was financed by a grant from Week of Compassion offerings, the workers' and individuals' donations, and church fund raisers. The group traveled from Alliance for two days to Port Arthur, where they slept on the gym floor of the Port Arthur First Christian Church. The church provided their breakfast and a packed lunch each day. Their four days of work included installing insulation, laying an attic floor, and dry wall installation in two different homes. Those participating on the project were Jeannette and Ron Carlile, Larry Koenigseker, Joan Roberts, Mort DeHoff, Norma Dickerhoof, Donna Los, and Smith. According to Smith, "You just really feel like you've done something to make a difference. The people that you meet are just so appreciative." Smith planned the trip with the help of the Disciples' Division of Homeland Ministries and a grant from the Ohio Disciples Outreach Ministry Team.

Partnership Camps

With the Holidays behind us, we begin looking forward to the end of the school year and to the beginning of summer. It means for many that plans for camp begin. For many children this is the first year they will be going to camp or considering going to camp. An excellent way to introduce your child to the camp experience is to enroll them for Partnership camp, also known as, the Critter Camps. These camps are a partnership between the Disciples of Christ and United Church of Christ. Partnership camps specialize in catering to 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade campers. Partnership camp will introduce your children to a Christ centered world of outdoor learning. Your children will have the fun of swimming, hiking, singing, playing games of all kinds and growing a stronger relationship with God. Children will be able to camp in real wood cabins, learn the importance of sharing, team work and making new friends. The experiences that your child will receive from their first years at camp are irreplaceable. The experiences they gain, the friends they make and the stories they will share will last a lifetime. There are three critter camps Otter camp is held at Camp Christian June 17 – 23, Badger Camp is held at Temple Hills Camp ground July 8 – 14, and Beaver Camp is held at Temple Hills Camp ground July 22 – 28. That being said the Director's of Partnership Camp would like to once again to invite each and everyone of your 3rd, 4th and 5th grade children to join us for camp this year. If you have questions or would like a director to visit your church for a question and answers session we would be more than happy to help you. Please contact Rev. Stephen Bentley at 614-433-0343 or bentley@ccinoh.org.

Disciples Fellowship Retreat

(Family Camp)

Camp Christian Memorial Day Weekend
May 25 – 27, 2007

"Camp Christian College"

There will different "studies/classes" offered, like a nature hike, contemporary music class, a bible study, a history of camp Christian class, a fishing class, a war veteran will talk, etc.

All are welcome to attend this event!!!

For more information contact
Bev Sajna (440-333-1264) sajhome81@yahoo.com or
Bob Stands (440-236-5778) bobs@estabrck.com

**Deadline for entries into the May/June
issue of
The Buckeye Disciple
Due in the Regional Church Office by
April 1, 2007**

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Your Gifts to Easter Special Offering Change Lives

*Easter Special Offering:
 to strengthen congregational life
 for mission*

 Disciples Mission Fund
 Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

Check us out on the Web

Find out what's going on around the region, register for
 events, view pictures, and so much more!

www.ccinoh.org



Help Build Shalom cont

experience a different culture.” “I had the time and thought it would be fun.” “I wanted to travel.” While those are true, and fine answers, I challenged them to go deeper, and search out why God wanted them to be there, reminding them

that such an answer may not come while we were in Chile, but perhaps would come weeks, or months, or even years later. They pushed themselves to new levels within themselves; their faith; and their spirituality, all in an effort to discover why God had led them there. We were given a great opportunity, to travel to a distant country, to immerse ourselves in an entirely different culture, to build Shalom for the people of God in a variety of ways, to experience the grace and peace of God in unexpected and unimaginable ways. Elena Huegel, the Disciples Overseas missionary who serves in Chile, and who was our director, highlighted and emphasized to us these great opportunities that were afforded, and then she said something that I will never forget. Elena said, “With great opportunity comes great responsibility.” The Christian Church in Ohio, through its outreach giving of the Keep the Fire Burning Campaign, has helped build Shalom. Through abundant generosity, the Christian Church in Ohio recognized its opportunity to be responsible with the resources it was afforded, and we responded to that responsibility. We must remember that the abundant and generous opportunities we are afforded continue to be given to us each and everyday. We have the opportunity to live comfortably in warm homes filled with abundant food, to go to school and earn whatever degree we want, to work at jobs we love, to have excellent and effective health care, to spend money on frivolous things that might cost as little as one dollar to as much as thousands of dollars. We have opportunities that the majority of the world does not. I say that not to make anyone feel guilty about having such opportunities. Not at all. But I do say it to make us a little uncomfortable. What we need to understand is that we are blessed abundantly with great opportunities, and with those, comes great responsibility. With that understanding, with that uncomfortable-ness, I implore us all to answer the same question asked of 2007 Ohio Delegation to Chile. Why are you here? Why are you here in this place? Why are you a part of this body? Why are you in the church? Why are you here? Answer that question, within the uncomfortable realization of our abundant blessings, and you too, without even needing to have gone to Chile, will begin to discover things about yourself, your faith, and your spirit, that you have not yet discovered. Things that God wants and needs all of us to discover so that we can continue to build Shalom for the people of God.

Jonathan Rumburg
 Coordinator of the 2007 Ohio Delegation to Chile
 Associate Pastor First Christian Church
 Wadsworth, Ohio

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Second Annual Youth Scholarship Golf Outing

To help provide scholarships for all the youth programs supported by the Christian Church in Ohio

JUNE 2, 2007

12:30 "shotgun" tee time for all golfers at Scioto Reserve Golf & Athletic Club

**Food and Fellowship at Camp Christian
Hors d'oeuvres 6:15pm, Banquet Dinner 7:15pm**

Golfer registrations are limited to 80 so don't delay!!

**Overnight Lodging and Continental Breakfast Option Available at Camp Christian
For more information contact the Christian Church in Ohio Regional Church Office at 614-
433-0343, or visit us on the web at www.ccinoh.org**



Save a Tree...Get
The Buckeye Disciple
On the Web!



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