

The  
Bexley  
Church

# LIGHT



*"You are the light of the world..."* Matthew 5:14

June 2010

## DELIVERING GOOD NEWS

Dear friends of Bexley Church,

Over the past couple of months, I find I'm looking for various ways to say farewell. Today I feel like a Pony Express rider. We pastors, when we're at our best, are bringers of Good News. And so it is pastorate after pastorate, we bring God's Good News. We hand the mailbag from one pastor to the next. God's message of love and God's call to service remains the same. And as was true with the Express Riders of old, the plan is that God keeps sending us to take a leg of the journey until the message gets all the way through.

Now it's my turn to hand the mailbag to Rev. Simonton. We find Cary and his family to be delightful. He has a wonderful way about him and a great reputation in ministry. I am confident that Cary's ministry will flourish in Bexley and that the walk of faith for all of you will go from strength to strength. This is a great church in a wonderful community and I will look forward to hearing stories of vital ministries which continue alongside of new initiatives you will be inspired to undertake.

I ask you from the bottom of my heart to open yourselves to the Simonton's in the same beautiful way you have open yourselves to us. We have found this to be a wonderful place to live and have built friendships that we will always cherish. You will honor our friendship by now sharing yourselves richly with the Simonton's. One thing that is so lovely about the Bexley Church family is that the love we share has no finite limit...it never runs out...the refreshing Living Water we find in this place springs from a well that never runs dry!

Lastly, let me say "thank you!" words which in no way can encompass the depth of my feeling. To our staff, it has been an honor and an adventure to serve with you. To our church leaders and teachers, you are without compare...you serve with commitment, creativity, and an enormous capacity for doing good. And to our incredible church family...your love has shaped us, encouraged us, and inspired us. We will miss you all very much and remember you fondly. God bless you and keep you always.

Until we meet again,  
Frank Luchsinger

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

**Sunday, June 13th - Celebrate the ministry of Dr. Frank Luchsinger!**

**COMBINED SERVICE—11:00 a.m.** followed by a **picnic on the lawn** (in the Fellowship Hall if the weather does not cooperate), all food, plates & utensils provided - donations appreciated. Pastor Frank's last Sunday at Bexley Church will give us an opportunity to express our gratitude and appreciation for his years of faithful, loving service and leadership. Please plan to attend and help make this a memorable day for all!

**Sunday, June 27th - Welcome Rev. Cary Simonton, our new pastor, & his family!**

**9:00 a.m. Sunburst Service** followed by an extended hospitality time so that everyone will have an opportunity to meet and greet Pastor Simonton, his wife Holly and their two children, Harris and Haviland. Please plan on returning for the Strawberry Social after the Traditional Service.

**11:00 a.m. Traditional Service (PLEASE NOTE TIME CHANGE)**

**12:15 p.m. Strawberry Social** - Everyone, from both services, is invited to come together for strawberries and ice cream on the lawn (in the Fellowship Hall if the weather does not cooperate). This is our opportunity to joyfully and lovingly welcome Pastor Cary and family to Bexley United Methodist Church and to our community.

## THOUGHTS ON WORSHIP — Thea Maloney

As the writer of Ecclesiastes (3:1) tells us, "To everything there is a season, a time for every purpose under heaven..." so in our lives and in the life of the church there are seasons, and ALL seasons are times for worship. We are entering the summer season which we most often think of as the time for vacations, for doing many out-door activities, for travel....for "re-creation."

In a piece called "Fix Your Eyes Upon Jesus" Anne Ortlund suggests the idea of looking through a kaleidoscope to discover as you turn one end of the tube the bits of colored glass keep repatterning over and over. In much the same way we can, she says "look at Jesus Christ to see God's glory and that glory will be 'new every morning,' always different, always beautiful...."

"Twist the tube a little. Oh -- He's the Lord, transfigured before Peter, James, and John. His face shines like the sun, and His clothes become as white as the light. Twist the tube. Oh -- He is the compassionate God. Two blind

men are before Him, begging, 'Lord, we want our sight.' And Jesus touches their eyes and they see. Twist the tube. 'Abounding in love and faithfulness.' Now twist. 'Gracious'. He's taking children into His arms. Keep twisting and twisting and every time you stop, you'll see another radiant facet of the glory of God."

In every glorious day of this season (and of every season) let us observe our surroundings in all their different colors and configurations. Let us really look at the persons who daily enter our lives in all their different roles.... in our homes, on the streets, in church, as we travel, as we work or study.... and in every turn of that kaleidoscope, let us see Jesus Christ and find another "radiant facet of the glory of God."

Says the Psalmist (95:6-7), "Oh come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the Lord our Maker."

May your summer season and your all your worship be filled with praise and joy.

## COMPASSIONATE CONGREGATIONAL CARE — Thea Maloney

**The Order of Shalom** - Usually meets at 11:30 a.m. on the first Thursday of each month. The next meeting is on July 1.

**The Prayer Chain** - We are very grateful to all the members of the Prayer Chain and to June Leshar who leads this ministry. Please call June at 861-2046 or the church office at 231- 2781 with requests for prayer.

**The Yellow Rose Ministry** - Call the church office at 231-2781 to alert us when someone is in the hospital over a weekend. Many thanks to Julia and Dale Heiser, chairpersons for this ministry.

**The Carol Joy Anderson Healing Hands Quilt Ministry** - Thanks to Kathy Myers and her committee who make lap quilts for members who are very ill or in special need of a beautiful symbol of caring love.

**The Attendance Ministry** - Please sign the attendance pad at worship each Sunday morning with name and address and phone number. Then please pass it along the row and back, noticing the names of those with whom we are worshipping. We try to contact members

who have not attended worship for a few weeks to make sure they are well and, if not, to offer help. Debbie Niemi heads this area.

**Saturday Night Alive!** - Dinner and program for all adult members of the Church, usually held the fourth Saturday night of the month, October through April. We completed this season with Stephen Douglas's marvelous program. We are off for the summer and will resume in October. For information call Jerry Maloney at 252-7666.

**The Calling/Caring Steering Committee** - Usually meets in Gray Chapel at 11:00 a.m. on the first Thursday of each month. We receive reports and discuss the ministry areas described above. Ruth Engelberg is our chairperson.

**There are many opportunities for service.** If you are interested in participating in any of these ministries, please call Ruth Engelberg at 231-0665, Chairperson of the Steering Committee; Beth Middlemus at 598-1544, Chairperson of The Order of Shalom, or Pastor Thea Maloney at 252-7666.

**ENDOWMENT FUND NEWS — Gerald Maloney**

On Heritage Sunday, May 23, 2010, we celebrated eleven years of steady progress in the growth and congregational support of the BUMC Endowment Fund. The Endowment Fund has received gifts of cash and securities and bequests amounting to more than \$650,000; and, even at this stage in its history, the Endowment Fund has been able to provide about \$70,000, paid out of its earnings, to help our Church support new initiatives and programs in recent years. The most recent action, earlier this year, was payment of \$10,000 toward the replacement of the parsonage garage next door. Even after these payments, the current market value of the Endowment Fund is about \$685,000, even after the difficult stock market conditions we have experienced recently.

We are grateful to the generous and dedicated members whose gifts, and promises of future gifts, support the growth of the Endowment Fund. Their names are shown on the two plaques hanging in the stair well near the Church office. The Heritage Society\* now has 56 family members and there are 34 members of the Remembrance Society\*\*. Taken together, these

names now represent about 90 individual members of our Church. This year, we remember, especially, the individuals from whom the church received about \$350,000 in bequests over these years: Louise Taft, Thelma Glinsky, Peg and Clayton Hockman, Libby Edmister, Alice Salt, Doris Gallagher, Bob Ballinger and Ted Magnuson – all fondly and gratefully remembered.

We hope that each Church member’s estate planning will include the possibility of a gift to the Endowment Fund, either now or in the future through provisions in wills or by other means, and that all our Church members will become Members of the Heritage and Remembrance Societies.

*\* Gifts of at least \$1,000 (can be in “installments” over 2 years).*

*\*\* Gifts of at least \$25,000 or 10% of one’s estate, whichever is less.*

**The Endowment Committee:** Hugo Anderson, Carolyn Chabot, Ken Curle, Don Dill, Barbara Giller, Bob Henshaw, Mike Herrel, Ellen Julian, Jerry Maloney, John McDonald and Alba Whiteside

**B.U.M.C. CONDENSED STATEMENT OF INCOME & EXPENSES**

	<b>APRIL 2010</b>	<b>YEAR TO DATE</b>	<b>ANNUAL BUDGET</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$54,507.92</b>	<b>\$248,097.52</b>	<b>\$707,500.00</b>
<b>Expenses</b>			
Education & Youth	3,272.73	6,891.15	15,000.00
Worship	1,304.19	2,131.15	6,000.00
Music Ministries	123.36	1,023.36	5,000.00
Discipleship Ministries	(159.70)	2,453.53	6,000.00
Witness Ministries	0.00	(3,489.73)	100.00
Mission/Apportionments	8,062.39	30,180.17	93,000.00
Trustee	4,594.05	26,216.33	60,000.00
Utilities	3,722.19	13,639.29	40,000.00
Administration	3,401.95	11,549.87	28,000.00
Staff-Parish	38,494.87	143,391.72	454,400.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>62,816.03</b>	<b>233,986.84</b>	<b>707,500.00</b>
<b>Net (Deficit) / Surplus</b>	<b>(\$8,308.11)</b>	<b>\$14,110.68</b>	

**NEWS FROM THE CHILDREN’S CORNER**

Pack your bags and get ready for a **fantastic voyage** this summer!

Our children will begin the summer, June 6th, with Summer Sunday School – **ALL ABOUT MISSIONS!**

Each week the our children will “travel” to a new country to learn not only about the county, where on the globe the country is located, but also, the challenges people face learning about Jesus and his love.

Some weeks we will have guest speakers who have actually traveled to that country like Michael Dion, who has traveled and spent missionary time in Ethiopia; Ryan Mullenix who has spent time in China, Sandi Hoover/Nicki Lykens who have both traveled to Belize to do missionary work and of course, Paul Woodruff, who takes the youth, of our church, each summer to a work camp to do missionary work right here, in the USA, in our backyard.

We’ll travel to Kenya, Peru, India, Pakistan, Philippines and other countries and our children will have a great time learning about each place! Just wait to hear the stories they will share – we’ll be on some exciting trips.

Don’t unpack yet...because on August 1st we’ll set sail for the **High Seas Adventure** with **Vacation Bible School!** Each evening, Sunday (8/1) – Thursday (8/5), we will climb aboard the SS Bexley to set sail for adventures to learn about God’s love for us and how we can share that love with others.

The children will learn that God’s Word is True, Comforting, Surprising, Life-Changing and for **everyone!**

We’ll begin the evening at 5:45 for drop off and music and end at 8:30 in the sanctuary for pick up.

This year Vacation Bible School is for ages 5 – 6th grade. There will be a preschool program (potty trained 3 and 4 year olds) for our volunteers.

We’re asking for a \$15 donation for each child which will help to offset the cost of all goodies the children will share in from crafts, to take home favors, music CDs and snacks each night. If children are registered after July 25th, we are asking for \$20 for each child – so register early!

This will be a great time for our children and our church – as always – we invite you to join our team and spend some time with us this summer by volunteering either for Summer Sunday School or Vacation Bible School; the children will love it too! New faces are always welcome.

Lastly we have a request for all adults of our church to search your heart, it may be calling you to teach Sunday School this fall- we are in need of a 3 - 5 year old class leader and 1 - 2 grade class leader. If you think that this ministry sounds like something you would enjoy, please get in touch with us – we would love to talk to you more about this opportunity.

We look forward to this fun time – please email or phone us if you have any questions! You can reach Alice Bailey at 933-9844 or joshandalice@aol.com or Lynn Gyurcsik at 253-1945 or lynn@avillian.com. Both of us can be reached at [childrensdirectors@bexleyumc.org](mailto:childrensdirectors@bexleyumc.org).

**— LETTERS OF THANKS —**

*Dear Feeding the 5,000 Friends,  
Thanks for a wonderful support line. Your generosity makes it possible for our pantry to help those in need. I’m having some challenges this spring but God bless all of you and those you help. Thanks so much.  
Eastview Food Pantry, Penny Weller & JoAnn Reinheimer*

*I just want to thank everyone for the kind words and generosity that you have given me and my family during my mother's passing. She always enjoyed attending our church when she was up for visits from Fort Lauderdale, Florida. We will miss her, but we know she is in a beautiful place.  
Peace, Alice Bailey*

**UPCOMING EVENT!**

Watch for an invitation to attend a Gathering. What is a Gathering? A Gathering is small group (25 to 30 people) dessert potluck that will be held in the Parlor at the Church. It will be an opportunity for us to get to know Pastor Cary and Holly and for them to get to know us. Your invitation will offer a number of dates on both weekday and weekend evenings. It will ask you to pick two or three evenings that you will be able to come. Your choices will allow us to keep the size of the Gatherings small so that all will feel like they have had an opportunity to participate in this getting acquainted experience. Please let me know what you think!

Thanks, Mark E. Storer

## MISSION UPDATE

- **Bikes for children at Mann's Trailer Park:** Thank You to everyone who donated "gently used" bikes for Mann's Trailer Park! The bikes will be ready for the children as they break from school for Summer Vacation. If you still have a bike(s) to donate please let us know ASAP – we hope to have the bikes ready for delivery on June 5th. SPECIAL THANKS TO ERIC ZANNER!!! Eric has been checking out all the bikes to make sure tires are OK, chains are oiled, brakes are working, etc.... Please call Johna at 443-6223 if you would still like to donate.
  - **New ministry opportunity for BUMC!** Many of you are already familiar with First English Lutheran Church and the work of Bob and Sara Ward in the near east side. For those of you who do not know the Wards, Bob and Sara attended BUMC for several years and are still very much part of our church family (some of you may have met them at our Bible Studies and Sara at our Women's Retreat). Bob is the pastor of First English and has a vital and challenging ministry to the neighborhood on Main Street not far from downtown and not far from our doorsteps. Every Thursday evening various churches volunteer to supply and prepare dinner for about 100 neighborhood people. The volunteers also provide activities for children and the dinner is followed by a worship service for everyone. BUMC has already helped with one dinner and we are hoping to join a rotation with other groups by supplying a meal and helpers every other month. We currently work with IHN Homeless Families 6 times a year in a similar way and we would like to create a team to serve at First English the other 6 months of the year. We would need people to prepare/supply food; others to serve the food and people who would like to help with children's activities. Please contact Johna at 443-6223 or Mike Marous at 237-2193.
  - **Help for Haiti teams are forming** – Reynoldsburg UMC is inviting other to join them as they prepare work/mission teams to go to Haiti. If you would like to know more, please call 443-6223.
  - Interfaith Hospitality Network continues to serve dinner to homeless families at the YWCA Family Life Center every other month. Many opportunities to donate food, prepare and serve food, to visit and share dinner together with the families – this is a very special way for your whole family to give to others! If you would like to know more about this ministry, please contact Julie Watson at 258-4553.
  - **New Life Breakfast Ministry** – Every month a group from BUMC goes to the short north area of our city to help New Life UMC in preparing breakfast for those in need. The first Sunday of each month from 6:30 - 9:00am volunteers meet at 25 W. Fifth Ave. to serve before coming to Sunday Worship- add a new dimension and depth to your Sunday worship experience! If you have been thinking of becoming involved but would like to know more contact Mike Marous at 237-2193.
  - **Freestore volunteer experiences** – The UM Church For All People continues to need volunteers to help sort and display used items for their free store to the needy. Ruth Engelberg from BUMC has volunteered for several years in this very special ministry which always needs help. If you would like to know more about this ministry or how to help please speak with Ruth or Johna at 443-6223. If you would like to donate items to the Freestore, please drop them off at the Drop-Off Door behind the ministry at 946 S. Parsons Ave. during these hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday from 8:00 - Noon and Wednesday and Friday from 1:00 - 5:30 p.m. Friendly volunteers are there to unload your car for you! To find out more contact Ken Curle at 443-6223.
  - We continue to collect Hotel Toiletries for New Life UMC to distribute to the poor. PLEASE remember to bring back from your holiday travels the hotel shampoos, etc...the collection box is across from the church office. Bill Hoyer takes these donations to New Life as the box fills up – Lets keep bill busy this summer. (Thanks Bill!)
- We, as Christ followers, are each being called to "Rethink Poverty"; to invest a part of our lives and time to touch the lives of the poor. If you have been thinking about reaching out beyond our neighborhood; to add a missional experience to your life; to follow Christ into areas of our city where He walks everyday, there is a place for you! Our church leaders are challenging all of us to reach outside our comfort zone and touch lives in need. We are asked by them and by Christ to integrate into our lives experiences and relationships with those near us who are poor, ill, hungry and know nothing of the love of God. Want to know more? Contact Johna at 443-6223.

## EASTVIEW FOOD PANTRY

Many thanks to Mel Honeycutt for his large donation of food to the pantry! The people who work there were very appreciative of his generosity. So are we!

Now that it is time to plant your gardens, why not put in an extra one for the pantry? Fresh vegetables taste much better in the summertime than canned ones.

Bible school is just around the corner. The children who attend always help fill the tree during the week that it is held. We thank them!

For a list of what is needed at the pantry, consult your bulletin. Carol always prints in there what is most needed. Or you can donate what is most convenient for you. God takes our weekly donation, blesses it and multiplies it for the people who need us.



**The  
deadline for  
submitting  
articles  
for the  
next  
issue of  
"LIGHT" is  
Tuesday,  
August 17,  
2010.**

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The Bexley United Methodist Church  
2657 E. Broad Street  
Bexley, OH 43209-1842  
Phone 614-231-2781  
www.bexleyumc.org  
Address Service Requested