

Circuit Rider

Volume 2, Issue 9

September 2009

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From the Pastor

Dear Friends:

Physical endurance has never been one of my strong points. As a child, I wasn't overly athletic except, perhaps, for swimming. I was a good swimmer and worked hard. Sports seemed difficult for me. I wasn't one to run the race and complete it. I rarely ran an entire race without growing weary and quitting before the end of it.

I look at Hebrews 11 listing the heroes of the faith and wonder if that type of endurance could be found in my own heart. They had all been heirs to the promise of God, yet they were mocked, imprisoned, stoned, sawn asunder, tempted, slain with the sword, destitute, afflicted, tormented, wandered in deserts and in mountains, etc. What a life for a hero, for one who had been regarded as one of the 'great cloud of witnesses' (Hebrews 12:1) who had walked this life leaving behind a legacy worthy of inclusion in the Word of God.

When I read of what these saints endured for the sake of the faith, I cringe at my

own inability to endure physical challenges or my moaning and groaning because things don't go quite the way I want or expect.

"And these all, having obtained a good report through faith, received not the promise" (Hebrews 11:39)

Endurance is more than a physical challenge. It's a spiritual discipline, and not an easy one at that. The heroes of faith in Hebrews 11 endured to the end, many of them not ever receiving the manifestation of the promises of God in their own lifetimes. Yet, they persevered. They endured.

We don't know when God intends to fulfill His promises to us. One would hope to see God move in our lifetimes. Yet, many of these men and women who are hailed for having great faith never wavered in their commitment although they went to their grave without having received those things God had personally promised. They never wavered. They didn't doubt. They endured.

God's promises, according to the Word, are "yes and



Pastor John

amen" (1 Corinthians 1:20). He has a perfect timetable for every promise He has made to the Church and to us personally. When God makes a promise, He keeps that promise. His promises may even span the time beyond our lives, but that doesn't mean His promises aren't true.

Do we have the enduring faith like the heroes of faith in Hebrews 11? Consider this to be our challenge to develop strong faith, not in the manifestation of the promise, but in the One who promised. When God says He'll do something, it's as good as done.

Develop enduring faith. It's the type of faith that pleases God and glorifies Him as the true Promise-Keeper.

Blessings—
Rev John

Harvest Supper

Mark your calendar that Harvest Supper will be Saturday, November 7, 2009 from 4:30pm—6:30pm. If you can volunteer or donate, contact Deb Kelley.

September Birthdays

- 2nd-Diana Pence
- 6th-Joan Edwards
- 9th-Karen Amend
- 10th-Joe Glasser
- 11th-Annabelle Canfield
- 12th-Kip Van Tilburg
- 13th-Celesta Jane Hard
- 13th-Stevie Grissinger
- 15th-Paul Hennen Jr.
- 18th-Tyler Sabo
- 22nd-Robert Guilano
- 23rd-Doris Beninghof
- 24th-Amanda Edwards
- 24th-Melissa Wynn
- 25th-Susan Johnson
- 26th-Joye Boquist
- 26th-Justin Baughman
- 28th-Cristi Putman

September Anniversary

- 3rd-John & Nancy Barnes
- 6th-Mark & Diane Sabo
- 13th-Ron & Jan Elliott
- 30th-Mark & Elaine Burgess
- 29th- Donald & Maxine Ewing

September Volunteers

Ushers:

- Dan Stone
- Mike Edwards
- Chuck Grissinger
- Joe Glasser

Greeters:

- 6th-Dan & Michel Rueger
- 13th-Bill & Beth Miller
- 20th-Jim & Karen Amend
- 27th-Dick Denbow & Norm Zachariah

Audio:

- 6th-Mike Edwards
- 13th-Dan Rueger
- 20th-Michael Moore
- 27th-Joan Zachariah

Acolytes:

- 6th-Cooper Burton
- 13th-Morgan Moore
- 20th-Brooke & Blake Johnson
- 27th-Savannah Sabo

Liturgist:

- 6th-Joye Boquist
- 13th-Karen Buren
- 20th-Bill Miller
- 27th-Nora Cooper

Historical Trivia Review

1. What year was the hitching posts removed from the Third Street side of the church?
2. Who was the first minister at Emmanuel?
3. Where was Emmanuel's first parsonage located?
4. What former member of Emmanuel was also our State Representative?
5. Name two Emmanuel ladies (still living) who played on a softball team in Ashland?

Answers will be in next month's Circuit Rider.

Christian Women's Club

The Christian Women's Club will be having there first meeting of 2009/2010 on Sept. 10th at 6:00pm at Brookside West at the back pavilion. Please bring a favorite dish to share. Meat, tableware, and beverages will be provided. Deb Kelley will be the program leader. Please mark your calendar with these future meeting dates: October 8, November 12, December 10, January 14, February 11, March 11, April 8, and May 2. Meetings are at 7:00pm for all meetings except September 10th and May 2nd. If you would like to host a meeting or provide the program, please see Deb Kelley.

Choir Rehearsal

The Sanctuary Choir will begin its rehearsals for the 2009/2010 season on Wednesday night September 9, 2009 at 7:15 p.m. The choir will be under the direction of Pastor John and accompanied by Anne Budd and Randy Boquist. We always welcome new members. You do not have to read music to join. Please consider this wonderful ministry as we "Sing unto the Lord."

"Cry Out America!"

"Cry Out America!" is a prayer gathering at the Courthouse on Sept. 11 from noon-1:00 pm. This will be a time of prayer commemorating the events of 9/11 and asking God for a spiritual awakening in our churches, communities and nation. Let us take this opportunity to join in prayer in our community as we remember those who have died and as we look to god for guidance in the future. Joan Zachariah is on the planning team and if you need information, please call her at 419-289-7228 or email at nez@zoominternet.net. Bring your own lawn chair as seating will be unavailable.

Mid-Week Bible Study

The Morning Mid-Week Bible Study will begin meeting on Wednesday, September 9th from 10:00 am to 11:00 am. This bible study is lead by Rev. John and is open to the community.

Children's Sunday School

Children's choir will resume on September 6th. The children's choir will be doing a Christmas Musical, "One Starry Night," in December. Watch for details.

Sunday School for the fall quarter will begin on September 13th. There will be class on Sept. 6th. We will need teachers for ages 0-4, Kindergarten-3rd Grade, and Grades 4th-6th. Please prayerfully consider being a Sunday School teacher one week a quarter. Sunday school starts after the children's chat with Pastor John, after the Peace, so everyone can help for this 30 minutes.

Blake Johnson will be entering Third Grade and will be honored in church on September 13th and will receive his bible.

Sunday School Teachers

0-4 Year Olds:

- 6th-Jera Grissinger
- 13th-Jan Elliott
- 20th-Lisa Guliano
- 27th-Open

Kindergarten-Grade 3:

- 6th-Debbie Reynolds
- 13th-Jera Grissinger
- 20th-Susan Johnson
- 27th-Susan Johnson

Grades 4-6:

- 6th-Ron Elliott
- 13th-Ron Elliott
- 20th-Ron Elliott
- 27th-Ron Elliott

September 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 Church Council- 7pm	3	4	5 Breakfast Center- 8:30-10:00am
6 Holy Communion SS-10am Children's Choir -10:30am Worship-11am Kid's Fellowship-4pm Youth Fellowship-6:30pm	7 Labor Day	8	9 Bible Study-10am Song leader prac- tice-6:30pm Choir practice- 7:15pm	10 CWC-6pm	11 Prayer Service- 12pm at Court- house	12 Breakfast Center- 8:30-10:00am
13 SS-10am Children's Choir -10:30am Worship-11am Youth Fellowship-6:30pm	14	15 Clergy Consult w/DS	16 Bible Study-10am Choir practice- 7:15pm	17	18	19 Breakfast Center- 8:30-10:00am
20 Food Bank Sunday SS-10am Children's Choir -10:30am Worship-11am Historical Moment Kid's Fellowship-4pm Youth Fellowship-6:30pm	21	22	23 Bible Study-10am Choir practice- 7:15pm	24	25	26 Breakfast Center- 8:30-10:00am Ashland Care Life Walk-8am
27 Loud Sunday SS-10am Children's Choir -10:30am Worship-11am Youth Fellowship-6:30pm	28 SPR meeting w/Peggy at Christ- 8pm	29	30 Bible Study-10am Trustees-6:30pm Choir practice- 7:15pm	1	2	3 Breakfast Center- 8:30-10:00am

Treasurer's Report January-August 2009

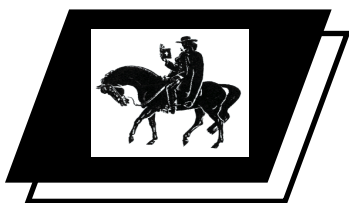
My thanks to Kim Wasielewski and Helen Earley for the surprise write-up on my 89th birthday. And it was a very nice surprise. I enjoy everything I do for the church but after making Mother's Day and Father's Day gifts for so long that I'm running out of ideas. I would be glad to hear from anyone with new ideas. Thank you.
 Portia Strine

	<u>ACTUAL</u>	<u>BUDGET</u>
Income		
General Fund	\$98,568	\$93,087
Misc. Income	640	
Expenses		
Apportionments	11,080	11,079
Membership	943	1,458
Property Maintenance	19,684	27,517
Supplies	648	1,171
Payroll	<u>50,614</u>	<u>51,231</u>
Net Income	\$16,239	\$ 631

As you can see from above, we have continued to keep expenses under control and contributions have continued to be above budget. Our weekly need is \$2,660 and our weekly average is \$2,816. If you want to see complete financial statements, they are hanging on the bulletin board across from the office.

The Ashland Care Center Life Walk is Sat., Sept. 26, 2009. Check in begins at 8:00 a.m. at the Corner Park at Main and Claremont. Pastors will lead in prayer then ALL walkers will start promptly at 9 a.m. We will walk down Claremont Ave. (sidewalk) to Smith Rd. and return to Corner Park for a total distance of 2 miles. Registration deadline is Sept. 13th. Registration forms are available and completed forms must be turned into Joan Zachariah so you can receive your pledge sheet.

Crop Walk is Oct. 25th at 2:30pm at Christ UMC. You can walk 1.5 miles or 6 miles. Money from this event helps fund our Breakfast Center. If you would like to walk or pledge, please call the church office.



**EMMANUEL UNITED
 METHODIST CHURCH**

322 Cleveland Avenue
 Ashland, Ohio 44805

Phone: 419/281-3667

Rev. John A. Guliano, Pastor

OUR MISSION

**"To Bring People Into a Loving
 and Growing Relationship With
 God"**