



# The Bell

August 2014



I don't know how to say thanks enough for the tremendous love and support this congregation has shown me and my family in the three years we have been here. Most recently, we were given a financial gift to help us enjoy a badly needed vacation. Upon our return, two different families made meals for us to help us settle back home again. These are just a few recent examples of the love we have been shown.

Three years ago, it was very difficult for my family to come here. We were told this church "needed" us, but for my family, it meant losing our home and the friendships we had in our last church and community. As hard as it was to leave, we have had nothing but love and support from this congregation from the time we arrived.

We just came home from vacation. As much as a vacation can "recharge" your batteries, the love and support of this congregation does so even more. Being a pastor, in large part, is about trying to take care of a great variety of needs of a great variety of people. As incredibly rewarding as that is, it can also be draining at times. That's why I can't explain to you how much it means to us to have such love and support from this congregation.

Sometimes, in counseling couples, you will hear a statement such as "I don't feel like my husband *appreciates* me." It's important to feel appreciated, isn't it? Don't you enjoy it when someone shows you appreciation for what you do? It makes it feel like all the hours you put in in the role of wife, husband, mom, dad, etc., is worthwhile. In counseling, we learn that many relationships have this very real problem – sadly, sometimes, we just

fail to appreciate each other as much as we should.

I am not trying to write this article in order to receive more appreciation! Rather, I want to say this...*I appreciate* all of **YOU**. I appreciate how many people show up to serve at things like vacation bible school, I appreciate the fact that people are inviting others to come visit our church, I appreciate how you are trying to live out your faith, I appreciate the love and support you have given me and my family.

There's an old sports saying that the quarterback of the football team gets too much of the credit when things go well, and too much of the blame when things go wrong. Football is a team sport. A church is like a team or family. Our church has more than doubled in worship attendance in the last three years. Things are going incredibly well. Like the quarterback, I receive too much of the credit for that. I understand how much all of you have worked and sacrificed for God and our church. I APPRECIATE how much all of you have done and continue to do here for our church – you have made all the change, growth, and excitement possible!

Thanks for all you do! You are loved and appreciated!

Pastor Matt

# Tiger Food Backpack Program



Did you know that one in five children go hungry? That was the statistic that I had been reading for years when the youth would take part in the 30 Hour Famine. They were quoting the figure that every

30 seconds a child dies of hunger or hunger related causes. They raised money by going hungry themselves for 30 hours and raised many thousands of dollars for World Vision through the years.

As a former Youth Director at HUM, I also knew from delivering many food baskets over the years with the youth, that there are kids right here in Howland that do not have enough food to eat. As I checked into this further, I found that about 17% of children go hungry right here in Trumbull County on a daily basis! When Pastor Matt did a Mission Sunday and asked for ideas for projects, my husband said to me on the way home, "Guess you found a place for your project!" He knew for a long time that I had talked about starting a Backpack program in Howland Schools.

So what is a Backpack Program? It is going into the schools each Friday during the school year and delivering a bag of food for children that the school has identified as most likely not to have much food on the weekends. (during the week they receive a free or reduced school lunch). I saw this as a great church wide mission program so

that we could be part of the solution for children right here in our community.

We are starting with one grade level in the primary schools and hope you will decide to support the children by providing them with a better chance to be healthy and to do better in school. This will be just a pilot program this year and hopefully as time goes on, we can expand the program to other grade levels in Howland. We will be sending children home with a bag containing food for 3 breakfasts, 2 lunches, 2 dinners, a snack and a drink.

You can help us as VBS so faithfully did, by donating foods that are needed each month. Right now, with the overwhelming generous donations from the VBS kids, we do not need any additional food items but please look in future issues of The Bell for items needed. We also will need volunteers to help us purchase, sort, pack, and deliver each week on Thursdays or Fridays. Let us know if this is a program you would like to get involved in.

For now, we need to be sure we have enough funds during the year to run the program successfully, so we are appealing to you to consider a \$50.00 donation to adopt one child so we can provide food to that student from October 2014 through June 2015. We actually need about \$100.00 per child so if you could donate more, that would be greatly welcomed. (Although, if you can not give as much, we certainly will appreciate any amount.) Our initial figure from the school's principal is to provide weekend meals to about 90 children. You may write a check for the amount you wish to donate made out to **HUM** and mark it for the **Tiger Food Backpack Program**. Please place in the collection plate or mail it to the church. We thank you in advance for your generous support.

Questions/Volunteers can be directed to Lannie/ Bill Mease or Karen France.

Our sincere "Thank You" to Pastor Matt and the HUM family for prayers, food and cards at the time of Hank's passing on.

Special "thanks" to the women who worked in the kitchen and dining hall. The luncheon was great! The service of Rev. McFadden was greatly appreciated.

God Bless,

Irene Mines and Martha Popovic

The family of Virginia Churchill wishes to thank Pastor Matt, Janel Darrin and Clay Colley for the comforting and inspirational service at Mom's funeral.

We also wish to thank all those who helped prepare and serve the lovely luncheon. It was delicious.

Your kind words and cards were deeply appreciated. It's wonderful to be a part of such a loving church family.

Jayne Roth



Dear Dustin Hray and Pastor Matt,

Thank you so much for your generous donation of \$1,000 to The Basement Outreach Ministries.

As you know, needy families in our community go without proper food, shelter and essential personal care due to a variety of factors, including low wages, job loss, illness, age, domestic violence, addictions, etc.

With the generous support of people like you, we are able to continue to help families and individuals meet basic essential daily needs. Your generosity also enables us to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ, which is the foundation of The Basement Outreach Ministry

Because of your gift the Basement will be able to continue to be fruitful in bringing the Light of Christ into the darkness.

Sincerely,

Pastor Julia Wilke

Thank you so very much for your generous contribution to the United Methodist Community Center. It is because of your support that we are able to continue to teach, develop and empower individuals and their families. Your donation of \$1,000 for our Warren programs and services was greatly appreciated.

We greatly appreciate you. What an honor it is to receive a gift given from your heart to make a difference in the lives of individuals and families in our community. Words cannot express how much your contribution truly means to us. We look forward to your continued support.

Sincerely,

Juanita Pasley

Executive Director

## \*\*\*\*\*Kids' Korner\*\*\*\*\*

**VBS** - WOW! Vacation Bible School was truly a blast this year. From our amazing rocket built by the Monroes to all our stations, to the delicious dinners and the fantastic carnival - and especially all the wonderful folks who volunteered their precious time including the Boy Scouts - A-M-A-Z-I-N-G!!!! Thank you so much; this important outreach for our community could only be this successful because so many people were involved in making it happen.



Thank you too to all you kids who brought friends. **We had 181 children participate this year!!!** What a way to build God's kingdom!

### **SUPER DAVID: Summer Rotation Sunday School**

We are concluding our 3 unit study of the amazing Biblical hero - David. From the humble beginnings of a shepherd boy, David rose to be one of the greatest and most beloved Hebrew kings. In June, we began our study with David's origins; which was followed by the David's rise to fame by defeating Goliath in July.



**SUPER DAVID: The Hero & Friend** - This month, we will be learning about David's friendship with Jonathon and some of his heroic choices. Bring your friends, children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews, etc. to our final Super David adventures.

*(After the Children's Sermon, kids ages PK-6<sup>th</sup> grade are invited to the fellowship hall for a brief time of joint worship. From there, they are dismissed by grades to classrooms where they discover the Bible stories and God's love through hands-on activities designed just for kids)!!!*

### **SEPTEMBER PREP MEETING FOR TEACHERS/**

**SHEPHERDS** - Prep meeting for September will be on Saturday, September 6, at 9:30 a.m. - please plan on attending to prepare materials and try out your lessons.





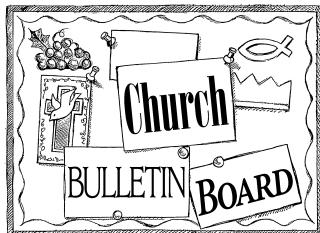
## Holy Moses!!

The Lancaster tour for October 22-23 is off to a good start. We now have 30 people registered to take the trip to Amish Country. We need five more people to implement the trip and ten more people to take a large deluxe motor coach.

The major tour highlight will be seeing “Moses” in the largest professional Christian theater in the United States. You will see a spectacular production on a 300 foot stage with animals, and also view the parting of the Red Sea. Other tour highlights will be visiting the reproduction of the biblical Tabernacle in the wilderness, Dutch Apple Dinner Theater to see “Crazy for You,” Kitchen Kettle, Rheils Amish Quilt Shop and a Bake/Souvenir Shop.

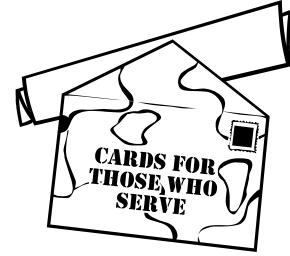
The cost is \$275, with a \$75 deposit due September 1. If you need more information, call John Sinclair at 330-856-2096. Tour description and itineraries are available at the church.

Call HUM and make your reservations now!



After 35 years of faithful service, Lana Eberhart is retiring from taking care of the “members” bulletin board located at the parking lot door. Lana has done an amazing job of posting newspaper articles about our members, and we thank her for her many years of service.

If you would like to take over this job, please call the church office.



Two of our HUM members are currently deployed. They have been away from home for three months now, and I'm sure they would love to hear from their church family. Please take a minute and send them a card.

Adam Schubel or Ron Barr

386 EOG / AFE  
APO, AE 09855

\*note: rank is purposefully left off

## Lay Servant Training

Friday, September 26 (5:45—9:30 pm)

and

Saturday, September 27 (8:00 am—5:00 pm)

West Austintown UMC

6749 Mahoning Ave

Basic Course—“Leading, Caring, Communicating”

Advanced Course—“Living our Beliefs: the UMC Way”

Cost: \$30 for books, snacks, breakfast and lunch

Scholarships are available

Deadline for reservations is September 12

Registration forms are available in the church office





## Staff

Matt Darrin, Pastor  
Andy McCracken, Lay Leader  
Janel Darrin, Director of Children's Ministries and Christian Preschool  
Nancy Moore, Director of Music  
Clay Colley, Organist/Accompanist  
Shelley Stere, Junior High Youth Director  
Alicia Seng, Senior High Youth Director  
Veronica Cortese, Nursery Attendant  
Debbie Macino, Church Secretary  
Lynne Norton, Custodian  
Tappy Christy, Children's Ministry Assistant



Dustin Hockensmith—8/1  
Gib Jepson—8/2  
Bill Connelly—8/3  
John Hulan—8/5  
Jan Burr—8/6  
Judy Greene—8/8  
Les Cooper—8/10  
Ed Monroe—8/10  
Bonnie Summers—8/10  
Lilah Sybelnik—8/10  
Lindsay Marble—8/11  
Kate Rider—8/12  
Susan Holbrook—8/14  
Nancy Moore—8/15  
Caitlynn Salman—8/15  
Matt Headland—8/16  
Bonnie Johnson—8/18  
Barb McCumber—8/18  
Carrie Barringer—8/22  
Carter Jones—8/24  
Chris Zwetzig—8/24  
Andrew Dillon—8/25  
Tyler Messina—8/27  
Kelley Drew—8/28  
Rick Muresan—8/28  
Rob Hoy—8/29  
Drew Taylor—8/29  
Terra Guerrero—8/30  
Craig Mills—8/30

## Trustee of the Month

Mary Nameth

## August Ushers

Steve Trace, Captain; Rob Hoy, Larry & Carol Hawkins, Bill Headland, Steve McCumber, Homer Burr, Dennis Moore, Barb Rosenblum

## Greeters

3 Bob & Bonnie Summers  
10 Sharon McClelland & Peggy Kiskadden  
17 Fred Black  
24 Gene & Dorothy Heitzenrater  
31 John & Tammi Penman

Earl & Joanne Thomas—8/2  
Bill & Carolyn Connelly—8/4  
Jeremy & Jackie Jones—8/4  
Tom & Bonnie Johnson—8/6  
Jobie & Lindsay Marble—8/7  
Jon & Alesha Perry—8/8  
John & Tammi Penman—8/14  
Bob & Nancy Hoy—8/19  
Gib & Jane Jepson—8/19  
Matt & Megan Reuschling—8/22  
Rick & Karen France—8/23  
Dave & Dawn Petrick—8/23  
Larry & Carol Hawkins—8/26  
Bob & Bonnie Summers—8/26



**HUM Members:** Bette Champ, Martha Johnson, Kathie Hubish, Diane Black, Cheryl Guerrero, Shari Dillon, DeAnn Zackeroff, Les Cooper, Raymond Wortman, Jayne Roth, Dayna Jones, Pat Kosarko, Dennis Moore, Bonnie Summers

**Friends and Family:** Jean Christian (*niece of Lee & Linda Giesecke*), Bernice Jones (*Dave Petrick's sister*), Paul Kemper (*Dawn Petrick's uncle*), David Siddens (*Cheryl Cranston's brother*), Melissa Kosarko (*Pat Kosarko's daughter-in-law*), Mary Dorenkott (*friend of Becky Lytle*), Annika Schmidt (*submitted by Bob & Nancy Hoy*), Jim Trace (*Steve Trace's brother*), Janet Hansen (*Kim Messina's mom*), Sally Miller (*submitted by Kathy Shirley*), Monroe Osborne (*Lannie Mease's dad*), Marianne Brom (*Jennifer Martin's friend*), Doris Nicora (*Tammi Penman's mom*), Ella Paterson (*Scott & Melissa Wagoner's niece*), Tom Dodson (*Shawn Varley's grandfather*), Judy Hocker (*Bert Morales' cousin*), Danny Riccitelli (*Theresa Cranston's uncle*), Faye Roberts (*Mary Nameth's friend*), Peg Altaffer (*submitted by Jackie Jones*), Kerri Baker (*Jennifer Betts' friend*), Bob Taulker (*Stacey Hoy's grandfather*), Ron McCracken (*Andy McCracken's brother*), Marybeth Nameth (*Mary Nameth's daughter-in-law*), Kerri Miller (*submitted by Lynn Rider*), Doug Gibson (*Harry & Fern Taylor's nephew*), Cathie Lazor (*Deb Taylor's friend*), Annette Burr (*Homer & Jan Burr's daughter-in-law*), Lu Vesey (*Mary Nameth's friend*), Ann Penman (*John Penman's mom*), Kay Bralich (*Tammy Chiodo's mom*), Carl Rider (*Dave Rider's dad*), Kim Aubel (*Shirley Stocz's daughter*), Mike Sewell (*Sarah Moser's friend*), Christopher (*Sheila Ansel's grandson*), Erica Lenart (*Rick Muresan's daughter*), Pam Hallet (*Jan Gibson's friend*), Nancy Cline (*Mary Nameth's sister-in-law*), Jean Sponseller (*Jan Rice's sister*)

## Howland United Methodist Church

730 Howland Wilson Rd. NE  
Warren, OH 44484

Phone: 330-856-3463

Fax: 330-856-7037

E-mail: [humchurch@howlandumc.com](mailto:humchurch@howlandumc.com)

Web: [howlandumc.com](http://howlandumc.com)

Sunday Worship: 9:30 a.m.

Sunday School: 10:45 a.m.

Non-Profit Organization

Bulk Rate

U.S. Postage Paid

Warren, OH 44481

**Return Service Requested**

**Invite**—Invite all to know Christ and join our church family

**Inspire**—Inspire all to grow to be more like Christ

**Involve**—Involve all in serving God inside and outside the Church

## Just Come Near

Rev. Stuart Sacks was serving in Paraguay when Rafael, a Maka Indian, came and sat on his porch. Sacks, who'd been inside eating, went out to see what the man wanted. Rafael said, "Ham, henek met," which means "I don't want anything; I have just come near."

The pastor, not understanding the significance of that statement, again asked what he could do for Rafael. But the answer was the same.

When Sacks later shared the incident, a veteran missionary explained it was Rafael's way of showing honor. He didn't need anything in particular; he just wanted to sit on the pastor's porch. He found satisfaction and pleasure merely by being near him.

Sacks points out that the phrase "Ham, henek met" also reveals the heart of true worship. When the Lord asks, "What brings you here, my child?" we don't need to mention or ask for anything specific. We can reply that we simply want to come near our God.

*Reprinted with permission from "NewsletterNewsletter"*