

February 2010

# The Lamplighter

First Christian Church  
620 N. Main St.  
Findlay, OH 45840



*"You are the light of the world...no one after lighting a lamp puts it under a bushel basket...let your light shine before others..."*

*Matthew 5:14-*

*From the Interim Pastor .....*

What a joy it was to share in worship, Sunday school, and fellowship with our sisters and brothers in Christ at First United Church of Christ last Sunday. It was a truly warm and wonderful experience, and a historic event in the lives of these two congregations. I'm sure you share my gratitude for their warm welcome and gracious hospitality.

As I walked in the front door of what seemed like a strange church that morning, I momentarily found myself surrounded by friendly faces—some familiar and some new. And I realized once again that the church is not a place or a building; it's a people and a relationship. Thanks be to God for stretching our experience, leading us in a new direction, and deepening our definition and meaning as the church, the Body of Christ in the world.

We look forward to future fellowship opportunities this Saturday, February 6, from 4:00 pm-7:00 pm at our church for Family Fun Night, and then a joint worship service again with our new friends here at First Christian on Sunday, February 28, with Sunday school before and a coffee hour following. These are truly exciting times - don't miss them!

This is also the season for our Week of Compassion celebration, and in light of the struggle and suffering in Haiti, it comes none too soon. Please read the stories and information enclosed in this newsletter, and give generously. Checks can be made out to First Christian Church and noted for Week of Compassion.

One hundred percent of this special offering will go to the relief effort in Haiti.

On the wall of the fellowship hall at First United Church of Christ, I noticed a scripture quotation in harmony with our own mission statement:

*"Whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister..."*

- Mark 3:35

A true definition of church family from the Master.

In Christ,

*Bob*



**ASH WEDNESDAY**

**February 17, 2010**

## Pastor Search Committee

The search committee continues to interview and research potential candidates for pastor of First Christian Church. There is a possibility that the search committee of First United Church of Christ might be interested in the same candidate. Time will tell.

- A second shipment, by ocean ship, is to arrive in Santo Domingo on Feb. 2. It contains 500 light-weight CWS blankets; 13,325 hygiene kits; and 375 baby kits.
- Another shipment is also expected to arrive in Santo Domingo on Feb. 2 with 2,950 blankets; 3,150 baby kits; and 7,215 hygiene kits.
- An air shipment of 60 cartons of [IMA World Health](#) medicine boxes is expected to arrive in Santo Domingo today, January 26. Each box contains enough essential medicines and medical supplies to treat the routine ailments of about 1,000 adults and children.

Coria also reports that:

- The Episcopal Church of Jimaní has given its building to be used as long as needed for doctors, rescue teams, visitors and volunteers. There are 30 mattresses and secure space to store supplies. This will serve as the hub for CWS and partner operations. A storage/supply center for 100 containers have been established.
- A first aid clinic and emergency room has been located in the Christian School of Parisien, in Haiti, some 8 kilometers from the Haitian/DR border - about two hours from Port-au-Prince. There is space and capacity for no more than 30 patients at a time, and it is secure.
- Food and supply distribution sites have been established across the border through Haitian churches and managed through different Haitian non-profit organizations and community leader associations. The hub of a five-center distribution network is located in Pétionville.

Disciple Don Tatlock, CWS Latin America and Caribbean program manager, continues work with distributing supplies to those in Port-au-Prince, noting the strength of CWS's already-existing relationships in helping to determine priorities for CWS distributions. Likewise, through Church World Service's participation in the larger ACT Alliance international ecumenical partnership, Week of Compassion donations have gone to the construction of temporary water systems, providing water purification materials, tents and food packages.

We continue to lift up the people of Haiti, all those on the ground working for the recovery effort, and all those who have offered their resources to aid with the relief effort. *Week of Compassion is committed to Haiti for the long term.* Once the news cameras are gone and the celebrity telethons are long forgotten, we will still be at work in Haiti. Thank you for making that possible.



## Compassion & Aid Received in Haiti Week of Compassion Tuesday, January 26, 2010

If you've been watching the news, you've inevitably heard about the difficulties of getting aid, supplies, and medical care to those affected by the earthquake in Haiti. While it is true that the delivery of aid has been hampered by many factors, including infrastructure-related challenges, Week of Compassion can assure you that aid is reaching many of those who need it.

Martin Coria, Church World Service Regional Coordinator for Latin America and the Caribbean, now based in the Dominican Republic and working closely with *Servicio Social de Iglesias Dominicana* (SSID), noted that with pre-positioned CWS kits and blankets, SSID was able to provide relief to the victims of Haiti's massive earthquake in the first twenty-four hours of the disaster. On Wednesday, January 13, SSID sent a flight with supplies to Port-au-Prince, and their staff was able to see the needs firsthand and quickly provide the most crucial supplies and assistance.

Since then, CWS has established a storage and distribution center in the Dominican Border Town of Jimani, and has begun to provide assistance for Haitians who may try to enter the neighboring Dominican Republic. Thanks to you, we have helped make possible the following CWS aid and supplies:

- An air-freight arrived on Jan 22 in Santo Domingo. The shipment contained 500 CWS blankets; 1,125 baby kits, 10,595 hygiene kits; 720 tubes of toothpaste; and 25 flashlights with batteries.

# February

## BIRTHDAYS

- 1—Charlotte Ballard
- 1—Ann Kretzinger
- 1—Deb Longworth
- 2—Shawn Linhart
- 7—Jessie Stahl
- 9—Kassie Stahl
- 13— Dale Yoder
- 13—Nathan Williamson
- 17—Bill Peters
- 19—Andy Koehler
- 21—Larry Hoover
- 22—Bill Nicholson
- 25—Deb Kirk
- 27—Martha Stoner



## ANNIVERSARIES

- 3—Lloyd & Karol Smith
- 23—Ty & Rachelle Barth



## ONGOING PRAYER CONCERNS:

Gene Cleary, Lyt Wells, Kathy Brinkman, Sandy Frantz, Pansy Slaybaugh, and Greg Longworth

## IMMEDIATE PRAYER CONCERNS:

### *Please pray:*

- ◆ For Dwight Beery (Heather’s father), Colleen Sheaffer, Pat Yoder and Julia Larick (Diana’s sister).
- ◆ For all of us as we discern where God is leading us as a congregation of the Disciples of Christ Church.
- ◆ For the Pastoral Search Committee as they proceed in their efforts to locate a new pastor for our church.
- ◆ For the Building Committee as they continue to discern how best to use our church building.
- ◆ For those who are alone and lonely, that their hearts may find peace and joy in their relationship with God.
- ◆ For all our service men and women who are defending our safety here and abroad.



## Sundays at FCC for January

	January 3	January 10	January 17	January 24	January 31- Service
Worship	57	65	73	68	Service at
Sunday School	15	20	20	15	First United
Sunday School Offering	—	\$7.00	\$8.00	\$5.00	Church of Christ
Loose	\$6.00	\$5.00	\$19.00	\$16.24	
Envelopes	\$1,270.00	\$604.25	\$1,098.00	\$484.00	\$141.00
Interest	—	\$243.24	—	\$17.50	\$248.34
Other	\$23.00	\$19.00	\$4.00	\$6.00	—
Total Operating Fund	\$1,299.00	\$878.49	\$1129.00	\$528.74	\$389.34
Other	—	\$45.00	\$70.00	\$225.00	—
Total All Funds	\$1,299.00	\$923.49	\$1,199.00	\$753.74	\$389.34

## FEBRUARY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>January 31</b> <b>Services at First United Church of Christ</b> 9:00.Sun. School 10:00 am- Worship Fellowship after Worship	<b>February 1</b> 11:00 — Bible Study	<b>Feb. 2</b> 11:00 — Bible Study	<b>Feb. 3</b> 9:00 am— Taize Prayer 10:00— Hannah Circle 7:00 pm - Choir 7:00 pm— Search Committee	<b>Feb. 4</b>	<b>Feb. 5</b>	<b>Feb. 6</b> 4:00-7:00 pm—Family Fun Night
<b>7</b> 9:30 am- Sunday School 10:30 am— Worship	<b>8</b> 11:00 — Bible Study  7:00 pm— Board Meeting	<b>9</b> 11:00 — Bible Study 6:00— Elders Meet- ing 6:00— Member- ship/ Fellowship	<b>10</b> 9:00 Taize Prayer  6:00 pm – Chimes 7:00 pm - Choir	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 7-9 pm - Youth & Young Adult Night
<b>14</b> 9:30 am- Sunday School 10:30 am- Worship Special Valentine's Day Coffee Hour	<b>15</b> 11:00 — Bible Study	<b>16</b> 11:00 — Bible Study  6:00 pm— Worship Committee	<b>17</b> 9:00 am— Taize Prayer  7:00 pm— Ash Wednesday Service	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 7-9 pm - Youth & Young Adult Night
<b>21</b> 9:30 am-Sunday School 10:30 am- Worship Baby Dedic- ation—Kaitlyn Grace Koehler 2:30 pm - Fox Run	<b>22</b> 11:00 — Bible Study	<b>23</b> 11:00 — Bible Study	<b>24</b> 9:00 am— Taize Prayer  6:00 pm – Chimes	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> 7-9 pm - Youth & Young Adult Night
<b>28</b> 9:30 am-Sunday School 10:30 am- Worship With First United Church of Christ here at First Christian Fellowship after- Worship	<b>March 1</b> 11:00 — Bible Study	<b>March 2</b> 11:00 — Bible Study	<b>March 3</b> 9:00 am— Taize Prayer 10:00— Hannah Circle 6:30 pm – Chimes 7:00 pm - Choir	<b>March 4</b>	<b>March 5</b>	<b>March 6</b> 7-9 pm - Youth & Young Adult Night

## SERVING SCHEDULE

February 7	February 14
<p><b>Minister:</b> Rev. Robert Bowen  <b>Children's Sermon:</b> Patty Koehler  <b>Organist:</b> Anna Stembler-Smith  <b>Music Minister:</b> Carrie Norris  <b>Greeters:</b> Robin Kretzinger, Kathleen Shaffer, John Snyder, Barb England  <b>Nursery:</b> Pat Sharninghouse &amp; Rebecca Wolfe  <b>Elders:</b> Linda Pitkin &amp; Barb England  <b>Deacons:</b> Patty Koehler, Melissa Brown, Zach Stahl  <b>Coffee Hour:</b> Team #6: Angie Wagner, Carol Cleary, Deb Kirk, Barb England  <b>Counter:</b> Robin Kretzinger &amp; Karol Smith</p>	<p><b>Minister:</b> Rev. Robert Bowen  <b>Children's Sermon:</b> Robin Kretzinger  <b>Organist:</b> Anna Stembler-Smith  <b>Music Minister:</b> Carrie Norris  <b>Greeters:</b> Bill Peters, Dale Yoder, Cindi Beltz, Martha Stoner  <b>Nursery:</b> Kathleen Schaffer &amp; Jessie Beltz  <b>Elders:</b> Terry Fancher &amp; Kathy Brinkman  <b>Deacons:</b> Nancy Peters, Bill Peters, Cindi Beltz  <b>Coffee Hour:</b> Team #7: Martha Stoner, Colleen Sheaffer, Mary Decker, Lavonne Eckert  <b>Counter:</b> Robin Kretzinger &amp; Andy Koehler</p>
February 21	February 28
<p><b>Minister:</b> Rev. Robert Bowen  <b>Children's Sermon:</b> Zach Stahl (Penny Sunday)  <b>Organist:</b> Anna Stembler-Smith  <b>Music Minister:</b> Carrie Norris  <b>Greeters:</b> Ken Varney, Karol Smith, John Snyder, Barb England  <b>Nursery:</b> Dale Yoder  <b>Elders:</b> Kathy Brinkman &amp; Carole Cleary  <b>Deacons:</b> Mary Fancher, Tim Wolfe, Heather Kretzinger  <b>Coffee Hour:</b> Team #1: Heather Kretzinger, Kathy Schaffer, Kathy Brinkman  <b>Counter:</b> Robin Kretzinger &amp; Bill Peters</p>	<p><b>Minister:</b> Rev. Robert Bowen  <b>Children's Sermon:</b> Heather Kretzinger  <b>Organist:</b> Anna Stembler-Smith  <b>Music Minister:</b> Carrie Norris  <b>Greeters:</b> Cindi Beltz, David England, Ed Davies, Martha Stoner  <b>Nursery:</b> Linda Pitkin &amp; Andrew Varney  <b>Elders:</b> Barb England &amp; Linda Pitkin  <b>Deacons:</b> Barb Brown, Deb Kirk, Dale Yoder  <b>Coffee Hour:</b> Team #2: Ben &amp; Lisa Feller, Tim &amp; Lisa Wolfe, Betty Longworth  <b>Counter:</b> Robin Kretzinger &amp; Terry Fancher</p>

## FAMILY FUN NIGHT

This Saturday, February 6 at 4:00 pm

Join us for a evening of fun and Christian fellowship.

Everyone is invited.....singles, mom & dad, grandma & grandpa, aunts & uncles, kids of all ages, family friends. Everyone and anyone you'd like to spend a fun evening with!

There will be fun, food and games. Wii computer games, x-box, and board games for young & old. (if you have a favorite board game you like, feel free to bring it along.)

**Pizza, Sandwiches, & Beverages will be provided!**

**ALL YOU NEED TO DO IS SHOW UP!**

**WE HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!**

The Lamplighter (USPS 904-040) is published monthly by the First Christian Church, 620 North Main Street, Findlay, Ohio 45840-3581. Second class postage paid at Findlay, Ohio. Postmaster: DATED MATERIAL PLEASE DELIVER.

Sunday Schedule  
9:30am Sunday School  
10:30am Worship Service  
Followed by Fellowship-Coffee Hour

---

---

# **Hancock Christian Clearing House Garage Sale**

**Saturday, March 20 from 8:30 until 4:00 PM  
and Sunday March 21 from 1:00 until 4:00 PM**

**Brinkman's County Corner Greenhouse,  
1800 East Sandusky Street, Findlay**  
*Lunch Available*

We need donations of almost anything in good, clean condition (which must be sellable items). Items can be dropped off at the greenhouse the week prior to the sale at the following times:

**Monday, March 15, 9-4**

**Wednesday, March 17, 9-7:00 PM**

**Tuesday, March 16, 9-4**

**Thursday, March 18, 9 till noon**

If you have a larger item that you wish to donate, we will have a pickup service available. Please call 419-422-2222 prior to the garage sale to arrange a day and time for pickup.

**All Proceeds Benefit HCCH.**