



CROSSBEAMS

A Monthly Newsletter for Cheviot United Methodist Church

August 2011



PASTOR'S LETTER REV. CRAIG JONES

“THE PRIORITY OF WORSHIP”

Worship should be “*the*” top priority for Christians. It is the primary way that we acknowledge our love and devotion to God. Jesus is asked in Matthew 22:36: “*Teacher, what is the greatest commandment in the Law?*” To this Jesus responded: “*You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the great and foremost commandment.*” Worship is the primary way that we obey this “great” and “foremost” commandment.

Then, why is it that so many Christians don't see worship as a priority? Why is it that we as Christians put so many things before our worship of the Lord? If this is the “great” and “foremost” commandment, it would seem that we should make every effort to make worship the “*top priority*” of our lives, knowing that there are times when we can't worship, like when we are on vacation or when we are ill.

Dr. Charles Stanley, in his *Life Principles Bible*, teaches that Hebrews 11:24-25 is vital for Christians to understand when it comes to the priority of worship. The writer of Hebrews 11:24-25 shares: “... *and let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds, not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another; and all the more as you see the day drawing near.*”

Dr. Stanley, “He (the writer of Hebrews) instructed his readers to *help one another* hold fast their faith in God. He knew they would be tempted by trial and persecution to drift from the truth that God had plans for our lives. So he said, “*Let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds*” (Heb. 10:24) In essence, the author was instructing his readers to spur one another along, to refuse to be-

come ensnared by negativity, and to take responsibility for their lives in Christ as well as one another.

With this backdrop, the author make it clear that they should not stop meeting together (Heb. 10:25). They needed one another, just as we need other believers. To give up meeting together would spell disaster because it would provide Satan an opportunity to draw them away from the Lord. In meeting together, they found the mutual encouragement to keep going. The same is true for us.

God wants us to regularly meet with other believers. He wants His people in church! Many believers don't take this admonition seriously because they don't know the reason behind it. I have often heard this refrain: “*I can worship God at home. I don't need to go to church.*” Many believers believe the sole reason we meet together is to worship – and understandably so. After all, we call it a worship service.

If worship were the only reason we are commanded to meet, then those who claim they can worship at home would have a strong argument. So why are we commanded to meet? Why go to church?

The writer of Hebrews says it is to safeguard against drifting. We are the body of Christ, and when we are with other believers, we are doing what comes naturally and what we will do for eternity – being together in His presence. We make up the church, and together we provide strength for one another through prayer, fellowship, and encouragement.

Enemy forces are always at work around us, seeking to blow us off course. Sheer individual commitment is really not enough to keep us in line. We need the presence and accountability of other believers who love us and are willing to laugh, cry, and check on us.

In the atmosphere, worship, and fellowship in God's

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ARTICLES

house, we discover that we are not alone. We hear others talk about how the Lord has miraculously provided for them. One may describe the pain he has suffered as a result of a loss. A new believer may tell her story of redemption, rejoicing in God's grace. As we listen to others recount God's work in their lives, something happens inside of us. We are spurred on to faithfulness and to praising God for His goodness.

The accountability and encouragement found in church anchor us against the tides that work to sweep us away. To neglect the regular assembly of fellow Christians is to miss out on this essential element in the development of our faith.

Throughout the Bible, we find that one of God's principle desires it to have a close relationship with each one of us. By becoming active in a local church, you safeguard yourself against missing out on all that God has for you. Your participation in a body of other believers safeguards your personal fellowship with God. Remember, when you drift away from the family of God, it is only a matter of time until you drift away from fellowship with God.

Regular church attendance should never be viewed as something you do to gain God's merit. We are not saved by good works. Instead, it should provide the catalyst for spiritual growth."

See you at the place where we can "love the Lord" and "grow in our relationship with Him!"

Craig



*We need the presence and
accountability of other believers
who love us
and are willing to laugh,
cry,
and check on us.*

DEVOTIONAL ARTICLES

“WHEN A CHILD DIES”

2 Samuel 12:16-23

Understandably, people who lost a child want assurance that their little one is safe in the arms of God. The Bible is not explicit about what happens to those who are too young to make a proclamation of faith. However, the Lord’s mercy upon them becomes clear as we study His Word.

Over the years, people have created unbiblical explanations for what happens to little ones who die. There are those who argue that salvation is available to some but not to others, which is scripturally inaccurate (John 3:16; 2 Peter 3:9). Another more complicated theory holds that God uses His fore-knowledge to determine whether a child who dies will enter heaven or hell. The idea is that He rescues those who He knows would have grown up and been saved, but He rejects the rest. What terrible uncertainty that would mean for family members left behind.

God doesn’t keep people guessing. What His Word teaches is that during the early years of life, a child does not know how to choose good from evil (Deuteronomy 1:39; Isaiah 7:16) and therefore isn’t held responsible for his moral conduct. Accordingly, when a little one departs from life, the Lord is waiting with open arms. This is the only theology that makes biblical sense, given the Father’s character, desires, and plan.

Until a child is mature enough to decide about whether to serve the Lord, he or she is safe from divine judgment. Our just and loving God does not punish children for being too young to grasp their need of a Savior. Believers join their departed little ones in heaven (2 Samuel 12:23).

In Touch, July 2011, Dr. Charles Stanley

“THE AGE OF ACCOUNTABILITY”

Deuteronomy 11:18-20

I recall an interesting conversation I once had with a young first-time mom while she allowed me to hold her infant son. I commented, “*It’s hard to believe that they are born with a sinful nature.*” She protested, and I thought it best not to argue with her. But I would have liked to call her a couple of years later when the boy was a toddler to see if she thought differently!

At one point or another, all of us have felt a tug to do something that we knew was wrong. As adults and believers, we’ve learned that giving in to temptation is a sin against God. But small children do exactly as their nature dictates. Mother says, “*Don’t touch,*” but they reach out anyway. Little ones do not yet see the wisdom of following a parent’s rules. Boys and girls must be taught to recognize the difference between good and evil before they can make the wise choice to do right.

In the early years, a child is in a state of innocence. He is neither righteous nor saved, but he is safe from God’s wrath – if he dies, he goes to heaven. The Bible refers to the innocent period in Deuteronomy 1:39 and again in Isaiah 7:16. The Word of God confirms that there is a period of time when children are not morally accountable for their conduct.

The age of moral responsibility differs from child to child. As little ones grow, they each develop the spiritual capacity to pursue righteousness or knowingly give in to evil. The years of innocence are the time for parents to pour into their offspring sound biblical training and lessons on obedience.

In Touch, July 2011, Dr. Charles Stanley

ANNOUNCEMENTS & NEWS



COMMUNION SCHEDULE JULY – SEPTEMBER, 2011

August 7
September 11

WESTFED FOOD PANTRY

Thank you to VBS participants who generously donated food and their nightly offering to Westfed. The pantry serves over 100 families per month who are unable to buy sufficient food and toiletry items for their needs.



Needed for August: Peanut butter, Jelly, Bars of Soap

FESTIVAL OF SHARING

Festival of Sharing is a program of Church World Service. Kits are being assembled by the Outreach Committee for distribution to those in need here and around the world. Collection boxes are located outside Werner Lounge and in the Education Wing.

School Kit: blunt metal scissors (rounded tip), 3 spiral notebooks (70 sheets each of 8 1/2 x 11 ruled paper), 12" ruler, hand-held pencil sharpener, large eraser, 6 new pencils with erasers, box of 24 crayons.



Health Kit: hand towel (approx. 16" x 28"), washcloth, wide-tooth comb, nail clipper, bath size bar of soap in wrapper, one toothbrush in original packaging, 6 Band-Aids.



* Please purchase items in specified sizes . Monetary donations, individual items, and partial kits are cheerfully accepted.

AUGUST MONTHLY MISSION OFFERING

Our August *Monthly Mission Offering* will be received on Sunday, August 28 in both worship services.

Once again, our offering will go to help those in need, both in our own church family, and to help those in the community. We call this our *Needy Family Fund*. God bless you as you give to this important cause.

Save Your Store Coupons

Place coupons in the folder attached to the flyers that are in hanging around the building & Jim Nose will use his knowledge of how to get free stuff, mostly personal care items and will donate them to charity.



OUTREACH THANK YOU

The Outreach Committee's annual dinner at Nast Trinity UMC was well attended in July. Twenty-one volunteers, youth and adults, served over 200 meals to residents in the Over-the-Rhine area. Leftover casseroles and bread were taken to the Drop Inn Center, Cincinnati's largest homeless shelter, and immediately added to their evening serving lines. We thank the congregation for your support in providing food and manpower to this Christian outreach project.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & NEWS



Our prayers and sympathies are with the Family and Friends of Sue Edmisten, whose husband Charlie who passed away July 5, 2011.

Our prayers and sympathies are with the Family and Friends of Amy Morand in the passing of her father, Robert Wilging on July 13, 2011.

Our prayers and sympathies are with the Family and Friends of Ann Schmitt in the passing of her father, Neil Schmitt on July 13, 2011.

THANK YOU

- ◆ I recently had surgery, an overnight stay in the hospital and am now recovering at home. If you could put the following note in the next Crossbeams I would appreciate it. I would like thank Pastor Craig for his visits to the hospital and to the choir and friends for all the cards, flowers and cookie treats. It is nice to know that you have the support of your church family to get you thru a bump in the road. Thanks again for all the well wishes!
Mark Roush
- ◆ Thank you to everyone that prayed for me, sent cards, flowers, and visited me during my recent heart procedure.
Also, a very special thank you to Lois Schalk-Hartley for all her comforting visits and moral support.
Marilyn Pepple

PRAY FOR OUR



MILITARY

Charles New
Ryan Long
Jocelyn Padilla

The following persons have been lifted in prayer. Please continue to pray for them.

- | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| † Dotty Meyer | † Agnes & Sherry Spurlock |
| † Anna Cooley | † Julie, Mark & Children |
| † Peter & Porscha Schwartz | † CJ |
| † Peggy & Jeff Burchall | † Rebecca |
| † Karen Colon | † Joyce Herzog |
| † Stephanie George | † Betty Kareth |
| † Wilma Craig | † Jim Maurmeier |

☞ Please notify the church office when you know of someone is ill or in the hospital. The Pastors would like to minister to them. Thank you.

Card Ministry

Do you know someone who could benefit from a card or note? Please contact **Carolyn St. John at 451-0535 or email at cjstjohn5@hotmail.com** if you would like a card or note mailed on behalf of CUMC and our church family.

**Contact Information for Crossbeams:
Juanita Woodburn
cheviotumc3820@aol.com
Please be sure to state "Crossbeams"
in the subject line of your email.**

CUMC STAFF CONTACT INFO

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CheviotUmcCJ@aol.com
(Pastor Craig Jones)

CheviotUmcLS@aol.com
(Lois Schalk-Hartley, Associate Pastor)

CheviotUmctrustees@fuse.net
(Trustee Committee)



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO...

8/1	<i>Vicki Groh</i>	8/18	<i>Charlie Sparenberg</i>
	<i>Grant McCoy</i>		<i>Debbie Wade</i>
8/2	<i>David Beiderbeck</i>		<i>Annette McGinnis</i>
8/3	<i>Merry Jo Kerekes</i>	8/19	<i>Jeff Becker</i>
8/5	<i>Don Francis</i>		<i>Greta Smith</i>
	<i>Tom Struckman</i>	8/20	<i>Diane Arnold</i>
8/7	<i>Chip Cummings JR.</i>		<i>Joann Reber</i>
8/10	<i>Albert Smith</i>		<i>Janice Barr</i>
8/11	<i>Hilda Heist</i>	8/21	<i>Jeff Halusek</i>
	<i>Sarah Brice</i>	8/24	<i>Jim Mazza</i>
8/12	<i>Jean Reynolds</i>	8/26	<i>Linda Hinds</i>
	<i>Norma Barkalou</i>	8/27	<i>Jeanette P. Wells</i>
	<i>Spencer Smith</i>		<i>Bob Gangwer</i>
8/13	<i>Marge Kugele</i>		<i>Dennis Morand</i>
8/14	<i>Ed Bolia</i>	8/28	<i>Ralph Hall</i>
	<i>Ann Halusek</i>		<i>Linda Benken</i>
	<i>Jon Paff</i>		<i>Tom Green</i>
	<i>Brad Imsicke</i>	8/29	<i>Taylor Chaille</i>
8/16	<i>Ruth Warner</i>	8/30	<i>Timothy Hinds</i>
8/17	<i>Joe Klein</i>	8/31	<i>Vicki Mazza</i>

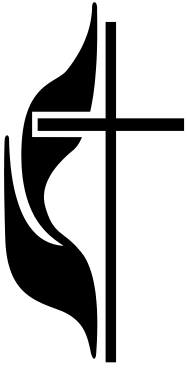


HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO ...

8/4	<i>John & Janet Koehler</i>
8/12	<i>Craig & Gail Jones</i>
8/13	<i>James & Janice Barr</i>
8/28	<i>Rick & Linda Hinds</i>

AUGUST 2011

31 9:20 AM Traditional Wors. Svc. 10:20 AM Sunday School 11:20 AM Contemporary Wors. SVC.	1 6:30 PM N&MC Comm. Mtg. 7:00 PM Education Comm. Mtg. 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Mercy Group 7:00 PM Trustee Committee Mtg.	2 1:00 PM Recovery Group 7:00 PM Preschool Board Mtg.	3 10:00 AM Bible Study 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM Senior Adult Yoga Class	4 7:00 PM Praise Team Practice	5	6 8:00 AM Men's Bible Study
7 9:20 AM Traditional Wors. Svc. 10:20 AM Sunday School 11:20 AM Contemporary Wors. SVC. 12:30 PM - 2:00 PM L.I.F.E. Class -Werner Lounge	8 7:00 PM Evangelism Comm. Mtg. 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Mercy Group 7:00 PM VIM Comm Mtg.	9 1:00 PM Recovery Group 6:15 PM - 7:45 PM Daisy Troup 7:00 PM Walk Through the Bible Sm. Group	10 10:00 AM Bible Study 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM Senior Adult Yoga Class 7:00 PM PPR Meeting	11 7:00 PM Praise Team Practice	12	13
14 9:20 AM Traditional Wors. Svc. 10:20 AM Sunday School 11:20 AM Contemporary Wors. SVC. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM Financial Peace University	15 7:00 PM Evangelism Comm. Mtg. 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Mercy Group 7:00 PM Traditional Wors. Svc.	16 1:00 PM Recovery Group 7:00 PM Mitford Small Group	17 10:00 AM Bible Study 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM Senior Adult Yoga Class 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM Back to School Dinner	18 7:00 PM Praise Team Practice	19 12:30 PM S.A.M Luncheon 55+	20 8:00 AM Men's Bible Study 10:30 AM - 1:30 PM Lynn Krebs-Werner Lounge
21 9:20 AM Traditional Wors. Svc. 10:20 AM Sunday School 11:20 AM Contemporary Wors. SVC. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM Financial Peace University	22 7:00 PM AD Council Mtg. 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Mercy Group	23 1:00 PM Recovery Group 7:00 PM Walk Through the Bible Sm. Group	24 10:00 AM Bible Study 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM Senior Adult Yoga Class	25 7:00 PM Praise Team Practice	26 Schwab/Maret Rehearsal	27 8:00 AM Men's Bible Study 2:00 PM Schwab/Maret Wedding
28 9:20 AM Traditional Wors. Svc. 10:20 AM Sunday School 11:20 AM Contemporary Wors. SVC. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM Financial Peace University	29 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Mercy Group	30 1:00 PM Recovery Group	31 10:00 AM Bible Study 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM Senior Adult Yoga Class	1 7:00 PM Praise Team Practice	2	3



CROSSBEAMS

Cheviot United Methodist Church
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Craig Jones, Senior Pastor
Lois Schalk, Associate Pastor

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. POSTAGE

PAID

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SUNDAY SCHEDULE



Pray for Peace

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

9:20 A.M.

Traditional Worship

10:20 A.M.

Sunday School (All Ages)

11:20 A.M.

Contemporary Worship



Worship with us!

"The mission of Cheviot United Methodist Church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ."

August 2011

www.cheviotumc.org