

# The Livingston Letter

WE LOVE WHO JESUS LOVES.

APRIL 2008



## God Has a Plan For a Shovel...and You!

So where were you when the blizzard of March 7 and 8 hit? Probably trying to dig yourself out of your driveway or street. Maybe you were helping neighbors whose cars were stuck in the drifting snow. My wife Sue noticed our neighbor Lynn's car was hopelessly stuck and she went to help her out. You should know that we live in an interesting residential neighborhood. The neighbors are fantastic and we get along very well. However, some of our "neighbors" are street people, hookers, and very poor folk who live in the run-down motels and group homes that populate our neighborhood.

One of our homeless neighbors was helping Lynn in the raging blizzard without gloves or a shovel. Sue took our well worn steel snow shovel to the scene. The helpful fella used it to dig out Lynn's car. He also helped our mail carrier get unstuck.

Sue returned to house to get the homeless guy a pair of gloves for his frigid hands. When she returned, Lynn's car was gone, and so was the guy with our shovel.

When Sue told me about it (I was "stuck" at my dad's home in Clearwater, FL) we both laughed about the shovel incident.

Sue said "God had a plan for that shovel." God wanted that shovel to be a tool for the guy to make some money with his own hands.

After I thought about it, I guess our time with that shovel was through. God had a plan for it and now it's working for someone else.

If the Lord has a plan for an old, well worn steel shovel, don't you think He has a wonderful plan for your life? Aren't you more precious than a simple snow shovel?

Embrace the promise that God made for you:

"For I know the plans I have for you...plans to give you hope and a future." Jeremiah 29:11.

Isn't that an incredible promise! God's plan for you is to enjoy a hopeful future. I encourage you to ask the Lord of Life to show you His plans for you. He will, if you're quiet and trust Him.

Oh, one last thing about my steel shovel. I really liked the old thing, but I understand God's plan. A few days after the blizzard, I was telling Don & Rosemary Wills this story, and Don says "I have a new steel shovel that I can't use; you can have it." That shovel is just like the one a homeless guy is now using, only newer. Thanks, Don and Rosemary for your generosity.

Friends, if God has a plan for a snow shovel, imagine the incredible plan He has for you!

Affectionately,  
Jim

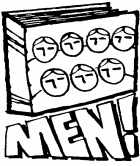
## Pistacia Vera Supports our Food Pantry

One of the joys of being your pastor is that I'm very involved in the German Village Business Community. Many of the small businesses are involved in our Bag of Blessing Ministry. A new boutique restaurant "Pistacia Vera" located at 541 S. 3<sup>rd</sup> St. (formerly Thurn's bakery) has chosen to support our Food Pantry by pooling the associate's tips.

I recently received a gift from the manager for \$47.00. It will be used to purchase food from the Mid-Ohio Food Bank. Isn't that a generous expression of compassion! This is another way our Food Pantry ministry is connecting with our GV Community.

## Our Easter Invitation in the GV Gazette

Due to the generosity of an acquaintance of Pastor Jim's, Livingston had a two page color article in the German Village Gazette inviting our community to come home to Livingston church on Easter Sunday. Please pray that our church will continue to invite our neighbors to worship and serve Jesus. A newspaper invitation is special, but the most effective invitation is personal. Have you personally invited a friend to come to Livingston recently? If not, don't be afraid. They are waiting to hear from you.



Please join us April 9 and 23 at Schmidt's in German Village at 6 PM.



Heart to Heart will meet April 9<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM. Please join us.

## Vocal Recital

April 13th, 4 o'clock

A benefit recital, given by Vera Ryan Cremeans, Vanjah Boikai, and Matthew McIntire, will be held in the sanctuary of Livingston Church on April 13 at 4 PM. The recital will help fund the three aspiring vocalists trip to the Opera Theatre and Music Festival of Lucca. The concert will also be featuring the talents of Matthew Ebright, Tamara Regensburger, and Nathan Harris.

The Opera Theatre and Music Festival of Lucca is a five-week accredited summer program of the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music (CCM), one of America's foremost institutions for professional education in the performing arts. Only about 100 young artists (vocalists and instrumentalists) are selected each year to spend five weeks in Lucca, Italy, the birthplace of Puccini, Boccherini and Catalani. Participants study and perform under the guidance of an international faculty of professional artists while daily Italian language classes, which are offered to all participants at various levels, are organized through the renowned Centro Koinè.

## Health Care Ministry Meeting April 20

The Health Care Committee will meet immediately following the Worship Service on Sunday, April 20. All interested persons are invited to attend.



Illuminati will perform Sunday Morning Worship Service April 27

### Music Program by Illuminati

Illuminati is a special ensemble of the Columbus Gay Men's Chorus that performs sacred music in sacred spaces: churches, synagogues, mosques, or any location of religious or spiritual significance to its membership or congregation. Illuminati's mission is to increase awareness that gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender individuals have spiritual concerns and a place in the religious life of the community.

CGMC stresses the importance of this ensemble, and as such recently hired a part-time Artistic Director to prepare Illuminati for performances and to conduct the ensemble of an average of once per month. CGMC and Illuminati hope to continue to bring the GLBT and religious communities closer together.

If you have never been blessed to hear this ensemble, you will NOT want to miss this service! They will fill our sanctuary with glorious music, and our hearts with the presence of the Lord. It's a great day to invite family, friends and neighbors to worship at Livingston.



04/04 Danny and Denise Russell  
04/11 Jerry and Patti Roadcap  
04/19 Mike and Sharon Weber  
04/20 Jack and Mira Cremeans  
04/22 Allen and Susan Adams



04/01 HILYARD, CALEIGH  
04/02 DUMENY, RICKY  
04/05 EWING, EDDIE  
04/10 MOFFITT, FRANCES  
EVANS, REBECCA  
04/14 LEATHERMAN, SUE  
04/15 PRICE, GEORGIA  
CREMEANS, MACKENZIE  
04/18 ROGERS, JULIE  
04/19 LIVINGSTON, PAT  
04/20 MILLIGAN, JESSIE  
04/22 EWING, EVELYN  
04/25 DUERLER, PATRICIA  
04/26 JONES, EVAN  
04/30 STUBBINS, ADRIENNE  
ADAMS, ROBERT

### MISSIONARY BIRTHDAYS

April 04 Melissa Miller  
April 20 Dee Dee Heffner  
April 24 Julie O'Herin

## **Salam kuoka Tanzania! Greetings from Tanzania**

Capital University grads, Ben and Melissa Miller, send greetings from Tanzania by way of the CAPITAL, News for Alumni and friends of Capital University. Read all about their adventures in preparing for mission work, traveling, and living in Tanzania with their five children. See Sarah or Chris Miller for a copy of this magazine. Ben is Sarah's grandson.

## DIRECTORY CHANGES

Terry and Bethany Hilyard  
phone number is 879-8532

Acenie Pierre  
Heartland of Centerburg  
212 Fairview Ave.  
Centerburg, OH 43011  
PH: 740-625-5774



The family of:

Belinda Henderson - the  
daughter of Norma Fields.

Aden Horst - Gail Kelley's  
grandfather.

Mabel Ludwig - Helen  
Keefer's sister-in-law.

Jackie Haines - Donna Staten's  
sister-in-law.

James Tom - Jennie Long's  
father and Barney Miller's  
uncle.

Sylvia Ferryman - Ginny  
Clear's sister-in-law

Please remember these family  
in your prayers.

### Financial Report as of February 29, 2008

#### General Fund

Receipts	\$12,369
Expenses	\$14,155
Deficit	\$ 1,786

#### Missions Budget \$12,112

Receipts	\$1,035
Expenses	\$1,034

### WALNUT HILLS UMC

975 Rathmell Rd

Fried Chicken &

Baked Ham Dinner

Saturday, April 5

Adults \$7

Children \$3 (12 & under)

Serving starts at 4:30 PM



## APRIL

Sundays:

Sunday School, 9 AM

Worship, 10:30 AM

Youth 5:30- 7:30

Tuesdays:

Bringing to the Light

Prayer Group, 6:45 PM

Wednesdays:

Weight Watchers, 6 PM

Thursdays:

Chancel Choir, 6:30 PM

Bell Choir, 7:15 PM

4/09 Men's Group, 6 PM

Heart to Heart, 7 PM

4/13 Ryan Cremeans Recital,  
4 PM

4/17 Van Goes, 9 AM

4/20 Health Ministry Comm.

After worship service

4/22-24-26 Food Pantry  
9-noon

4/24 Men's Group, 6 PM

4/25 Illumanti

4/28 AD CO Mtg. 7:00



To be a part of any of the Van  
Goes adventures, please sign up  
with Sarah Miller. There is  
always plenty of good fellowship  
and good food. You pay for  
your admission and lunch and  
\$5.00 toward the expense of the  
church van.

The Van Goes will go to the  
Sherman House, The Georgian  
Museum, The Decorative Art  
Museum and have lunch at  
Mauger's Seafood Restaurant in  
Lancaster on Thursday, April 17.  
We will leave the church at 9:30  
AM.

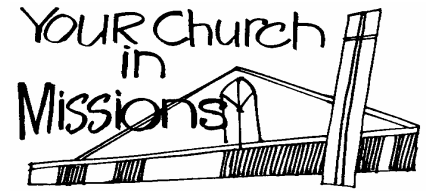
**June 19**, Dawes Aborteum -  
leave the church at 9 AM.

Lunch will be at Miller's  
Essenplatz in Newark.

**July 31**, Ohio State House and  
see the Lima Company Art  
Exhibit. Lunch at Jurgen's in  
German Village.

### August 21 Vatican Splendors Exhibit

More information soon.



## LIVINGSTON BUILDS

### HER CHURCH

## THROUGH MISSIONS

TRY A MISSION TRIP

SUPPORT OUR YOUTH ON  
MISSION TRIPS

BAKE COOKIES FOR KAIROS OR  
HOMEBOUND' S CHRISTMAS

VISIT SHUT-INS

SHAPE OUR CHILDREN IN  
TEACHING MINISTRY

WORK AT BIBLE SCHOOL

FIX A MEAL FOR THE FAITH  
MISSION

BRING IN FOOD/GIVE TIME FOR  
THE FOOD PANTRY

WALK IN THE CROP WALK

SHOP FOR SCHOOL SUPPLIES

GIVE NEW OR GENTLY USED  
CLOTHING/TOYS

TO OUR SOUTH STORE MINISTRY

DONATE MONEY FOR  
STUDENTS IN COLLEGE

PROVIDE FUNDS FOR DISASTERS

REMEMBER TO USE THE  
BENEVOLENCE SIDE  
OF YOUR ENVELOPE.

**PRAY. GO. GIVE.**

LIVINGSTON GROWS THROUGH  
MISSIONS.

AROUND THE BLOCK,

AROUND THE WORLD

Two vertical lines are drawn on the page, one on the left and one on the right, extending from just below the 'AROUND THE WORLD' text to near the bottom of the page. These lines create a large, empty rectangular area intended for the student to write their response.