

The Livingston Letter

Volume 1, Issue 8

WE LOVE WHO JESUS LOVES!

July/August 2011

The Raspberry Seeds in My Teeth

If you're like me, sometimes the small annoying things in life overwhelm me. I really enjoy eating fresh raspberries, especially the ones from my modest berry patch. One of the annoying things about munching on raspberries is the occasional seed that gets lodged between my molar teeth. Those little seeds are like the small annoying things in life that bug me.

The Apostle Paul wrote these words of encouragement for when the raspberry seeds of life get in your life: *"Rejoice always pray without ceasing; in everything give thanks; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."* 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

When I apply Paul's truth to the annoying things in life, I noticed my attitude about life changed. I know that God wants to pervade every area of my life.

Let me suggest three reasons God teaches us to give thanks when we have a raspberry seed of life in our tooth:

First, giving thanks always expresses **faith**, faith in the God who knows what's going on in our lives. And, faith in our God who rules in every aspect of our lives.

Second, God knows we wouldn't naturally give thanks. Giving thanks in all things means we no longer walk as mere human, angry and annoyed by little things. Instead, we walk by faith as spiritual beings on a human journey.

Finally, a lesson I've learned is that God wants the raspberry seeds of life to teach us how to deal with the really tough issues we face. If all we focus on are the annoying small issues of life, then we think if the annoying seed could be removed, then we could get on with real life. Let's face it, the raspberry seeds are the real life that God brings to us every day. I believe God wants to use those irritants to teach us and to help us to mature in Christ.

Do you have an annoying raspberry seed of life in you that you just can't remove? I invite you to meditate on the scripture passage above and start "giving thanks for everything", even delicious raspberry seeds.

In Him,
Jim



Church Leadership Meetings in the Chapel

Trustees' Meeting July 3rd @ 11:45 AM

TLC Meeting July 17th @ 11:45

Scholarship Committee July 17th @ 1 PM

SPRC meets July 24 @11:45 AM

Administrative Council August 14 @11:45 AM



PLAN AHEAD

Sunday

G.V. Al-Anon meeting 5:30 PM (Chapel)
Haus AA meeting 5:30 PM (Fellowship Hall)

Monday

Charitable Pharmacy open, 9 AM-4 PM

Tuesday

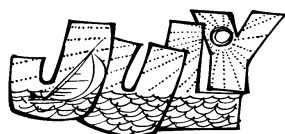
Bringing to the Light Prayer Group, 6:45 PM (Library)

Wednesday

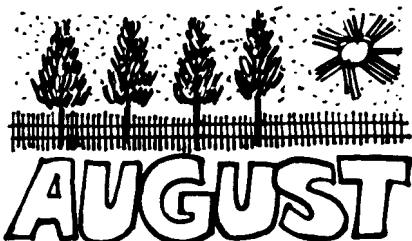
AMSPIRIT, 7:30 AM (Chapel)
Charitable Pharmacy open, 9-4 PM
Weight Watchers, 6 PM (Chapel)

Friday

Charitable Pharmacy open, 9 AM-1 PM



07/01	Red/White & Boom
07/03	Trustees, 11:45 AM
07/05	Bible Study Group, 7 PM
07/13	Men's Group, 6 PM (Wendy's)
07/17	Scholarship Committee, 1 PM
07/19	Bible Study Group, 7 PM
07/20	Mid-Ohio Food pick-up, 9 AM Men's Group, 6 PM (Wendy's)
07/24	SPRC, 11:45 AM Faith Mission served
07/26/28/30	Food Pantry, 9 AM – noon
07/27	Men's Group, 6 PM (Wendy's)



08/02	Bible Study Group, 7 PM
08/3-7	Mexico Medical Mission Trip
08/11	Men's Group, 6 PM (Wendy's)
08/14	Ad Council 11:45 AM
08/17	Bible Study Group, 7 PM
08/18	Mid-Ohio Food pick-up, 9 AM
08/19	Van Goes, 7:30 AM
08/21	Faith Mission 5 PM
08/24	Men's Group, 6 PM (Wendy's)
08/23/25/27	Food Pantry, 9 AM-noon



Adult Bible Study

The Tuesday evening Bible study "Experiencing God in The Psalms" will meet July 5 and 19 and August 2nd and 16 at 7:00 PM in the church parlor.



The Men's Group will meet at 6:00 PM, July 6 and 20th at Wendy's in German Village. All men are welcome to join the conversation.



Ladies Christian Friendship Breakfast is Saturday July 9th, 9:00 a.m. at Lisa Godfrey's. Colleen Barta will be sharing with us at this breakfast. Please come and join in on fellowship, learning, fun and building friendships. Weather permitting, the ladies are welcome to stay and relax in the sun. Call or email Lisa if your will be in attendance. lispacolumbus@yahoo.com 614-542-0900.



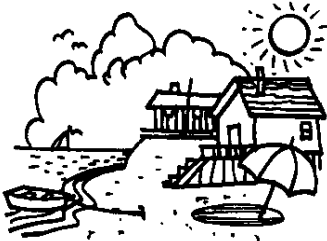
Mexico Medical Mission Trip August 3-7

Please remember in your prayers Colleen Barta, Denise Russell, Meghan and Colin O'Grady as they serve on a medical mission team to Nuevo Progreso, Mexico.



No trip is planned for July

Check out the pictures of First Responders Park in Hilliard (corner of Main and Center Sts.) on the large bulletin board near the church office. This park is in remembrance of September 11, 2001. This is the largest memorial of its kind in the Midwest. The Van Goes visited there on Friday, June 17 and highly recommend it for everyone to experience.



On AUGUST 19, (note date change) we will visit Jeanette (J) Bosworth's Muskingum River property, near McConnellsville. (J is one of our faithful Food Pantry volunteers and has graciously invited us for a visit to her summer place). We will have lunch there. We will leave the church at 9 AM. You will be asked to help offset the cost of the lunch. Gasoline will \$5.00 per person.



Please sign-up in the church office



Charitable Pharmacy
of Central Ohio, Inc.

Charitable Pharmacy news...

In order to help our patient's spiritual well-being, I've begun a chaplaincy ministry. Rev. Bethany Wallace and I are available to spiritually needy patients one or two mornings a week for prayer and conversation. The response has been fantastic. The chapel time allows the patients to share their heavy emotional burdens with us. We pray for their specific needs and they leave refreshed and their hope renewed.

The patients are so thankful to have the Charitable Pharmacy at their disposal.



Community Farm Donates Fresh Veggies to Pharmacy and Pantry

The GV Community Farmers are donating lots of fresh veggies this growing season. The produce will be stored in the kitchen fridge. The food will be distributed daily in the Pharmacy and Pantry.

FOOD PANTRY REPORT

May

107 families served

June

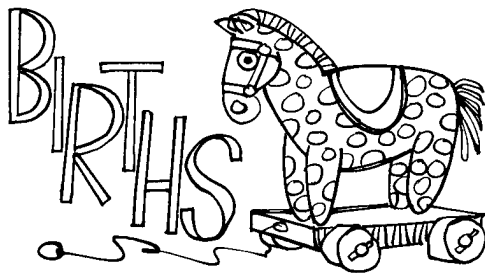
93 families served



The United Methodist Free Store will be providing school supplies for all students at three of the local elementary schools again this year. School supplies and clothing for all school age children is appreciated. New underclothes, socks and uniforms (dark pants and skirts, and white tops) are needed. We will be collecting all items through Sunday, August 8th. If you are unable to shop you may donate money and Colleen Barta will shop for school items. If you have any questions or would like to help sort items at the Free Store August 15-17th, please contact Colleen at 746-5222.

Items needed:

<i>Jumbo Crayons</i>	<i>Jumbo pencils</i>
Blunt scissors	Binders
<i>Colored pencils</i>	erasers
24-count crayons	Highlighters
Folders (3 prong & 2 pockets)	
<i>Ink pens (blue/black)</i>	Markers
<i>Loose leaf notebook paper</i>	#2 pencils
Rulers	Spiral notebooks
<i>Scissors</i>	



Congratulations to Matt and Stacey Ayars on the birth of their second child, Sofia on June 4. She weighed 6lbs 12 oz and was 18 inches long. The Ayars are missionaries in Haiti.



Thank you, Thank you for all the cards and prayers. With your support and God's hands wrapped around me, I am on the mend.
Buzz Thomas



Dear Pastor Jim and Church family,
Thank you very much for my gift card/graduation gift! It is very much appreciated!!

Thanks again,
Gabbie (Gabrielle Cook)



Dear Church family,
Thank you for the gift card. It will certainly come in very handy. I will miss everyone when I am away at school and am so grateful for your support during my life.
Thanks again!

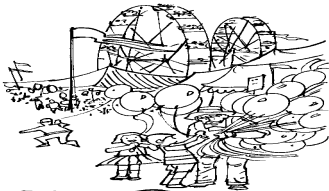
Love, Colin O'Grady

Community Ministries Apportionments

One of several ethnic ministries supported by Community Ministries' apportionments just got married! This past Sunday the combination of cultures was official-merging Grace Korean and Bethel United Methodist churches into one! They are sharing the same name: Bethel International Church, which is fitting since Bethel Road is "maybe the most international road in Columbus", states Mike Pratt, one of the pastors. We are looking forward to our Community Ministry Festival on September 20th to be at the very site of this new international congregation at 1220 Bethel Rd! Hope to see you there!



07/04	RONEMUS, JANE
07/06	THOMAS, PATRICIA
07/06	ROADCAP, VINCENT
07/07	NEDERMAN, LAURA
07/09	CLOUSE, KATHLEEN
07/16	STATEN, LOWELL
07/18	CLEAR, VIRGINIA
	ROGERS, GLENN
07/23	WEBER, SHARON
07/24	RUSSELL, DENISE
07/30	COBB, ANDREW
07/31	ARCHER, WILLIAM



AUGUST

08/05	BARTA, COLLEEN
08/07	MARSHALL, JOE
	MOORE, CRAIG
08/08	BRYANT, NORENE
	DONNAN, JULIA
	STATEN, ALYSSA
08/10	COBB JR. THOMAS
08/15	STURGILL, DEBBIE
08/19	ROADCAP, GERALD
08/21	BRIZENDINE. JIM
08/24	COOPER, MCKAILA
	LEWIS, NINA
08/27	WILLS, ROSEMARY
	CLOUSE, Karen



Dear Missions Committees,

Julie and I leave tomorrow for England. The first two weeks will be a Translation, Anthropology and Linguistics Consultant Development Workshop for those working in the Eurasia area. Very strategic. Please pray

for health and travel safety for all involved, as well as fruitful times together. We have just received several last-minute requests asking us to lead certain sessions, so you could pray for us to pull those together well.

I'm going to make the most of being in England, and meet face to face with the people I supervise based in England (with their wives and Julie, too). Pray that we may be encouraging and will facilitate them doing their consulting work well.

After the workshop, Julie and I will spend some vacation time in England, Wales and Scotland. Pray that we may be refreshed and enjoy the beautiful countryside and history.

In packing for our trip, we have looked at the weather forecast, and the 2 week prognosis is for highs in the 60s or high 50s and lows in the 30s and 40s with frequent drizzle. That takes us to the end of the workshop, and we are hoping it will clear up after that for our vacation time. But it's also made it challenging to pack – we're trying to travel light. J

Steven finally decided on Pepperdine Law School for next fall. He is currently sick and has his (last undergraduate) final exams and papers next week. Please pray that he would get healthy and finish well.

Kevin has just one more final exam next week, and he will be done with his first year at Stanford Law School. He starts his summer internship immediately after that with the Santa Clara County District Attorney. Please pray that he would learn a lot from that experience, as well as being a witness for Christ as he has opportunity. He and Alice celebrate their second wedding anniversary this month. Wow!

Thank you all for your faithful prayer and financial support. We appreciate your partnership and fellowship with us.

Brian O'Herin, PhD

Brian and Julie O'Herin – both teach linguistics at Biola University and are supported by your Missions' giving. They are Wycliffe Bible Translators.

The Holy Alphabet... This is Beautiful

Whoever came up with this one must have had some Divine guidance!

Although things are not perfect

Because of trial or pain

Continue in thanksgiving

Do not begin to blame

Even when the times are hard

Fierce winds are bound to blow

God is forever able

Hold on to what you know

Imagine life without His love

Joy would cease to be

Keep thanking Him for all the things

Love imparts to thee

Move out of 'Camp Complaining'

No weapon that is known

On earth can yield the power

Praise can do alone

Quit looking at the future

Redeem the time at hand

Start every day with worship

To 'thank' is a command

Until we see Him coming

Victorious in the sky

We'll run the race with gratitude

Xalting God most high

Yes, there'll be good times and yes some will be bad, but...

Zion waits in glory...where none are ever sad!

'I AM Too blessed to be stressed!' The shortest distance between a problem and a solution is the distance between your knees and the floor. The one who kneels to the Lord can stand up to anything. Love and peace be with you forever, Amen.

**PS: GOD LOVES AND HAS BLESSED YOU . . .
PASS THE WORD ON TO MORE FRIENDS AND
ASK THEM TO CONTINUE TELLING OTHERS
THAT GOD LOVES THEM, TOO.
JUST THINK OF HOW MANY PEOPLE THAT
COULD BE REACHED OUT TO AND BLESSED
WITH THESE WORDS**

A Smile

Smiling is infectious,
You catch it like the flu,
When someone smiled at me today,
I started smiling too.
I passed around the corner,
And someone saw my grin,
When he smiled I realized,
I'd passed it on to him.
I thought about that smile,
Then realized its worth,
A single smile, just like mine,
Could travel round the earth.
So, if you feel a smile begin,
Don't leave it undetected.
Let's start an epidemic quick,
And get the world infected.
Author Unknown