



WORLD OF FAITH



L I F E T R E E  
C A F É

When Jesus walked the earth He befriended those in society that were least likely to be considered religious. Tax collectors, prostitutes and the like. As time has marched on, somehow it seems society has decided that we should all get our acts together before we start going to church. Not so!! Our job as the body of Christ is to love others into a relationship with our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. This is the basis of Lifetree Cafe.

Lifetree Cafe is a new venture here at Faith UMC Ashland/Mansfield. It's a conversation cafe. Each week real life video stories will be played with conversations intertwined, and it will be a little bit of a challenge to those of us who have spent most of our lives in church. And yet, I think it will be a welcome change once we adjust. You see, we don't have to convince anybody of anything at Lifetree.

Lifetree is all about letting the Holy Spirit work in the hearts of the people that come. We'll be praying before

the episodes, praying over the chairs and asking the Holy Spirit to touch the hearts of those that sit in them. You may encounter people of different beliefs and opinions and lifestyles than you are used to, or that you agree with. That's OK. You don't have to change them. God can handle it. We just need to love them. Remember, love the sinner, not the sin.

Lifetree Cafe starts up in January @ 9:45 on Sunday mornings; I welcome you to come experience the Holy Spirit through great stories and open conversation. Then in February we will be adding our Wednesday night session @ 7:00 PM. Our stories will include episodes like "Follow Your Dreams" "Loving Those With Cancer" and "When He Becomes A She", and as you can see by the wide range of topics, it's meant to draw a diverse crowd. I don't believe God gave us this beautiful new building to keep all to ourselves. So give Lifetree Cafe a try for yourself and help us share the good news of Jesus Christ to all the sinners of the world like us! While trying to help others we may just experience God in a fresh new way ourselves!!

In The Magnificent Love of Christ,  
Mary Hodgson

**Café News**

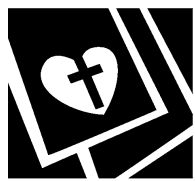
Last month I promised to tell you more about the family farm we help support by purchasing fair-trade coffee from Hemisphere Coffee Roasters (HCR) in Mechanicsburg, OH. You can also learn more about them by visiting their web site at [hemispherecoffeeroasters.com](http://hemispherecoffeeroasters.com)

Seven years ago, Paul and Grace Kurtz started HCR with a vision to help famers and the international church in coffee growing regions. In Nicaragua it all came together when Paul met Diego Chavarria. Diego and his family's witness and passion to serve God has impacted his whole community just outside of Matagalpa, Nicaragua.

In 2006 HCR purchased their first container of raw coffee beans (40,000 lbs.) paying twice what Diego had ever received.

Today, 6 churches around Matagalpa are supported solely from these coffee purchases.

Thanks for  
YOUR support!  
Sharon Boyce



# FROM THE PASTOR

Everyone jokes around this time of year about New Year's resolutions. Among the common resolutions are resolutions about weight loss, exercise, quit smoking, and better financial management. We talk about how quickly we break our resolutions, and how making one guarantees failure. However, when I began to look at statistical evidence the truth about them is much different from the assumptions that are made.

For instance, one study was done by proactive-change.com. They surveyed 282 respondents, 153 who made new years resolutions and 129 who did not in regard to a change they realized they needed to make. The study found that after 6 months 46% of the people who made resolutions were still taking steps to address the change that they had resolved to make. The study also revealed that of those who identified a change they needed to make but did not make resolutions only 6% took steps. While a lot of people who make New Year's resolutions do break them, research shows that making resolutions is useful. People who explicitly make resolutions are 10 times more likely to attain their goals than people who don't explicitly make resolutions.

In seminary, we are taught that preaching is supposed to lead to one thing - a decision! Resolutions are simply firm decisions; decisions that lead to positive change. One of my favorite Bible passages is Romans 12:1-2, "Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will." (Romans 12:1-2, NIV)

Resolutions can be a way of renewal for our thought patterns which will lead to a better alignment with God's good, pleasing and perfect will. So I began to think about changes I needed to make but didn't get too far with - then God began to help me:

- A member in our church was upset and forcefully expressed her frustration with me. After she finished, I walked down the hall to my office frustrated and angry. I opened the door and said aloud, "Lord, I'm going to take things less personal and love your people more."
- As I left home to attend another meeting at the same time Laura was arriving home from work for the fourth straight night in row and not returning until after she was asleep I said, "Lord, I'm going to spend more quality time with my wife and family - Sunday afternoons and evenings are for my family."
- I got up this morning and looked in the mirror... No, not weight-loss, cosmetic surgery, or a hair transplant; I knew that I need to rest and recreate. I'm going take my day off (Fridays); go fishing next spring, summer and fall every chance I get; and I'm going to start riding my bicycle at least twice a week by March 15<sup>th</sup>.

So I guess what I'm saying is that I'm going to start taking better care of myself physically, mentally, emotionally and spiritually.

What about you? Have you made any resolutions? Maybe you should, because firm decisions can lead to change that more perfectly aligns us with the will of God. That is very good in that God's will is beneficial, pleasing, and can not be improved upon.

Have a very happy and blessed New Year,  
Pastor Mike

## Prayers for 2011

As 2010 comes to an end, let us look to 2011 with excitement and hope! As we begin to ponder at what 2011 might look like for us individually and as a church, the process must begin with prayer.

Watch for a 3 Month Commitment insert in your church bulletins where you can prayerfully decide what area's you would like to be in prayer for. At the bottom is a place for you to sign and return. These names will be kept together and placed on the alter for prayer during the next three months.

Let us all be in an attitude of prayer and see where "The Spirit" leads.

Acts 29 is coming to Faith UMC. Details to follow soon. Please keep this vital ministry in your prayers as well!

Prayerfully, Pastor Gloria

## Thank You 2010

Well... it was a great run for UMC Faith in 2010. We pushed through the year and have finally got our building complete! What an awesome undertaking! Thank our great and most awesome God for pulling us through once again. Between the many tests, inspections, hoops, bells and whistles that were set before the completion of the building as obstacles to overcome, there were miracles to match them. The bottom line is this... "who can stand against us if He is for us"? God is Great! All the time!

So what's up for 2011? Super Party! That's right, a Super Party. And what better day to have a Super Party but on Super Bowl Sunday? So there you have it. On February 6<sup>th</sup> we will be hosting a Super Bowl Super Party at the Outlet Café. Bring your friends, family and good cheer to the Outlet to enjoy fellowship with the community on Super Bowl Sun-

day 2011. There will be something for everyone! Children will have their own agenda and activities as well. Not going to say what... spoil the surprise!

With the opening of the Outlet Café, we will now be able to put in effect the full Kaleidoscope of ministries, entertainment and programming that various teams and committees have been biting at the bit to get rolling. Well... oil them gears and hang on to the reigns because God's warriors are busting loose and bringing forth the Kingdom. Never lose focus of what we are about. We are about Faith! Faith in a God that is both forgiving and merciful ... and we need to share that precious gift. So keep these Warriors of God in your prayers... souls depend on it!

As always we are looking for more of God's Warriors to step up. If you feel the calling and would like to be a part of our Evangelism Team, please contact myself or anyone else on the team. May the Light and Love of Jesus fall upon you. Dan Davis

## STATIC News

As all of us are sighing a sigh of relief because the holidays are finally over, can we look back to see where we were super laid back and didn't do anything the whole time...no. All of us were running from this store to that one, and from this part of the family to the other. Our list of things to do is ridiculous this time of year.

It reminds me of Mary and Martha in Luke where Mary is simply sitting at Christ's feet hanging on every word, while Martha is doing what most of us do with our lists and tasks. If we know the story well Martha gets upset with Mary because she isn't doing enough while Martha thinks she is doing it all. As the story moves on we read that Christ essentially reminds Martha that Mary is doing something more important than all

of our tasks and lists. Mary is sitting at the feet of Christ. During all the hustle and bustle of the Christmas season, where we are celebrating the birth of Christ, we forget all about sitting at the feet of Christ.

This past month I feel like the Youth Group was also like Martha running around doing so much that we too forgot to sit at His feet. While Martha's story does not end badly neither does ours. From Dec. 29<sup>th</sup>- Jan. 1<sup>st</sup> we attended Winter Fest at Lynchburg, VA; where God moved in an incredible way.

My word can't do any justice to the experience that was Winter Fest. Our youth gathered with 3 to 4 thousand other students in worship. We were also active in a number of activities like rock climbing, skiing, ice skating, basketball, but most importantly we shared time that was totally devoted to God with speakers and musicians that are completely on fire for Him.

As the youth leader it was a great blessing to see other leaders not just going through the motions but totally sold on bringing others to see the face of Christ. As a group from Faith UMC I believe that there wasn't one person who went to Winter Fest who didn't grow in their relationship with Christ.

Even as I sit here trying to recall the feeling, it is tough to recall all of the things that God was doing in our students and leaders. Winter Fest 2010 was one of the greatest encounters with God in my life and most importantly a trip that none of our youth will ever forget. Many of our youth can draw a line in the dirt in Lynchburg, Virginia and say this is where God changed my life. As a youth leader, seeing lives changed for the cause of Christ is what I feel my job is all about.

God Bless You, Jared Foes

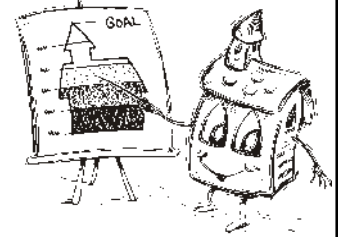
## Celebrate Our Church

On December 5 over 200 family and friends of Faith UMC met for the first time in our new sanctinasion to Celebrate Our Church. The music ministry was led by both the Praise Band and the Choir. The children's program told us that "The Best Gifts in Life Are Free." The S.T.A.T.I.C. youth group explained that the church is "More Than Just a Building." Special invited guests included: Reverend Gary George, Assistant to the Bishop of EOC; Mike Kenyon, CEO of the Mansfield YMCA; Reverend Peggy Strieff, Mid Ohio District Superintendent; and Bill Seder, Crestview Schools Superintendent. Each guest responded to the question, "What does it mean for this church to be here?" A story emerged of 2 older congregations developing a shared vision of an accessible facility that would minister to the youth and young families in the community. It took more than ten years for the vision to become a reality of what is now Faith UMC at The Outlet. A vibrant collaboration with the YMCA provides all kinds of programming for all ages. Studies show that children connected to a faith community are better students and families connected to faith communities have better coping mechanisms. God continues to open the door with visions of additional mission. Pastor Mike Mack revealed that he is approached regularly by other organizations wanting to collaborate to offer additional services to the community. The foundations of our Hope are Joy in the Lord who brought us here, the Peace of God, our Trust in Christ and the Power of the Holy Spirit (Romans 15:13). Phyllis Harrington

### Faith United Methodist Church \* General Fund \* November Report

| Income   |             |                                    |                  |            |                   |
|----------|-------------|------------------------------------|------------------|------------|-------------------|
|          | Year        | Jan-Oct                            | Nov              |            | YTD               |
|          | 2005        | 131,097.00                         | 11,929.00        |            | 143,026.00        |
|          | 2006        | 149,970.78                         | 15,548.46        |            | 165,519.24        |
|          | 2007        | 142,869.53                         | 14,385.28        |            | 157,254.81        |
|          | 2008        | 140,844.89                         | 12,467.99        |            | 153,312.88        |
|          | 2009        | 136,532.22                         | 16,611.84        |            | 153,144.06        |
|          | <b>2010</b> | <b>153,412.73</b>                  | <b>19,325.29</b> |            | <b>172,738.02</b> |
|          | Average     | 142,454.53                         | 15,044.64        |            | 157,499.17        |
| Expenses |             |                                    |                  |            |                   |
|          | Year        | Jan-Oct                            | Nov              |            | YTD               |
|          | 2005        | 129,105.00                         | 13,810.00        |            | 142,915.00        |
|          | 2006        | 133,468.30                         | 14,037.77        |            | 147,506.07        |
|          | 2007        | 131,481.03                         | 11,142.98        |            | 142,624.01        |
|          | 2008        | 144,305.35                         | 14,629.04        |            | 158,934.39        |
|          | 2009        | 139,452.91                         | 13,614.95        |            | 153,067.86        |
|          | <b>2010</b> | <b>153,074.96</b>                  | <b>13,568.25</b> |            | <b>166,643.21</b> |
|          | Average     | 138,481.26                         | 13,467.17        |            | 151,948.42        |
| Note:    |             |                                    |                  |            |                   |
|          | 2010        | General Fund Year to Date Income   |                  | 172,738.02 |                   |
|          | 2010        | General Fund Year to Date Expenses |                  | 166,643.21 |                   |
|          |             |                                    |                  | 6,094.81   |                   |

# SCRIP Report



Thanks to everyone who helped us reach our highest holiday sales month ever! We earned \$679.59 from SCRIP card sales, plus \$150 by selling our Discover Bonus gift cards, bringing our grand total to \$19,598.22!

For those of you who are curious, here are the *Christmas* earnings for the past four years:

2007 - \$362                      2008 - \$301                      2009 - \$443                      2010 - \$680  
 Comparison of the past three years is: 2008 - \$4,636    2009 - \$3,013    2010 - \$4,334

I hope that you will continue to use SCRIP regularly for your day-to-day shopping needs. Thanks for your help in earning \$830 in free money this month!

Marilee Yarger

## Faith UMC Country Food Pantry

| Month<br>Dec. | Families<br>Helped                | Non<br>Perishables | Perishables<br>Food Cards | Food<br>Donations | Monetary<br>Donations | Grocery<br>Receipt | Treasurer's<br>Balance |
|---------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|------------------------|
| Week 1        | 2                                 | Yes                | No                        | Yes               | No                    | No                 | \$380.92               |
| Week 2        | 1                                 | Yes                | No                        | Yes               | \$500.00              | \$39.80            | \$841.12               |
| Week 3        | 0                                 | No                 | No                        | Yes               | No                    | \$629.72           | \$211.40               |
| Week 4        | 1                                 | No                 | 1 @ \$50                  | No                | No                    | \$53.50            | \$107.90               |
| Other         | 26 Food<br>Boxes for<br>Christmas |                    |                           |                   |                       |                    |                        |

## Sharing the Love at Dayspring

Do you know the “Fun Time Ladies?” We are a small group of women who go to Dayspring on Tuesday afternoons to share love, laughter and fellowship with the residents.

We share many activities: singing, dancing, exercising, crafts, games, puzzles, and playing Bingo where everybody wins. We always start our afternoons in prayer and ask that God will use us:

- To hear the person who is hurting.
- To comfort the person who is grieving.
- To share with the person who is lonely.
- To draw out the person who feels abandoned.

And to just simply share God in whatever ways He needs us to for the residents at Dayspring.

We would welcome anyone that would like to join us (even men). There are many male residents that

would like to talk about “manly” things (sports, hobbies, military experiences, etc.). Do you have a talent that you could share once in a while? Know a good group game or craft? Share a home cooked tasty treat? Have any Bingo prizes (little stuffed animals, Christian based books, jewelry, personal care items, candy, quarters, more candy, etc.)?

If you feel compelled to Share the Love at Dayspring please talk with any of the “Fun Time Ladies”, Peg Boardman, Sparky Conaway, Janet Dyson, Karen Rucker, Marilyn Steurer, Doloris Stolle, and Audrey Vigneron.

We thank God for the opportunity to serve others in this small way and any good that comes from our activities.

Glory Be To God!  
Peg Boardman

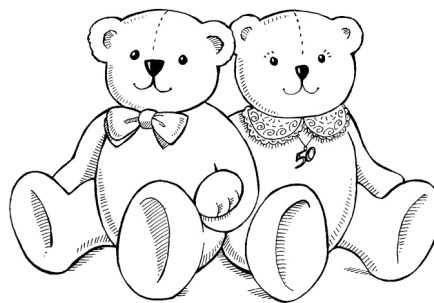
## January Birthdays, Anniversaries & Lection



- 4 Alaine Beck
- 7 Ethan Boardman
- 7 Alan Esbenshade
- 7 Tom Kyser
- 12 Megan & Lindsay Shoup
- 14 Perry Rucker
- 17 Marida Hout
- 19 Jesi Davis
- 20 Juanita (Sparky) Conaway
- 21 Carson Ringler
- 21 Glenn Boardman
- 21 Maxine Oswald
- 22 Marilee Yarger
- 26 Kelcie Chance

### Dayspring Residents

- 2 Ernest Spencer
- 15 Albert Potter
- 23 Paul Kling
- 26 Charles Wetz



*Happy Anniversary*

- 17 Cliff & Anne Williams (29th)

### January 2

- 795 Psalm 72:1-14 (1st response)
- Isaiah 60:1-6
- \*Matthew 2:1-12

### January 9

- 761 Psalm 29
- Matthew 3:13-17
- \*Isaiah 42:1-9

### January 16

- 774 Psalm 40:1-11
- John 1:29-42
- \*Galatians 5:1-15

### January 23

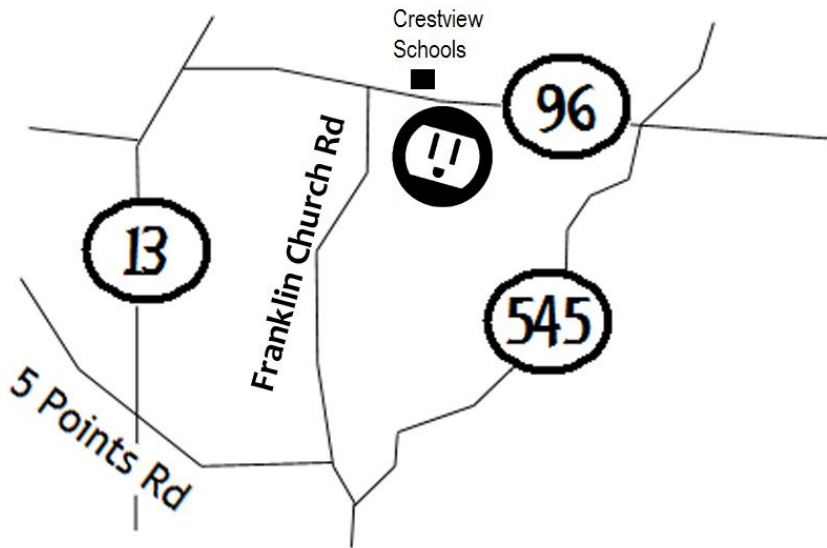
- 758 Psalm 27:1-4, 11-14
- Matthew 4:12-23
- \*Galatians 6:1-10

### January 30

- 747 Psalm 15
- Micah 6:1-8
- \*Matthew 5:1-12

# January 2011

| Sun  | Mon   | Tue  | Wed   | Thu   | Fri   | Sat   |
|--|---|--|---|---|---|---|
| <i>Legend:</i><br>A.O.A. =<br>Active<br>Older<br>Adults  | YMCA BB =<br>Basketball<br><br>Y BB =<br>YMCA<br>Basketball                                 |  |   |   |   | <b>1</b><br>S.T.A.T.I.C.<br>Returns<br>From<br>Winter<br>Fest 5:00p                                 |
| <b>2</b><br><br><i>Lifetree Café</i><br>9:45 a   | <b>3</b><br><br><u>A</u> ctive <u>O</u> lder<br><u>A</u> ddults 10 - 11a                    | <b>4</b><br><br>Bootcamp<br>7:30 - 8:30 p                      | <b>5</b><br>A.O.A. 10 - 11a<br><br>Evangelism<br>5:30 p<br><br>Synthesis 6:30 p | <b>6</b> Girl Scouts 6p<br><br>YMCA BB mtg.<br>6:30 p<br><br>Band 6:30 p    | <b>7</b><br><br><u>A</u> ctive <u>O</u> lder<br><u>A</u> ddults 10 - 11a            | <b>8</b><br><br>Choir 10a - 12p<br><br>Bootcamp 1-2p  |
| <b>9</b><br><i>Lifetree</i> 9:45 a<br>Christ Compan-<br>ions 9:45 a<br>Child Protection<br>Training 12:15p | <b>10</b><br>A.O.A. 10 - 11a<br><br>Y BB 5-7:30p<br><br>Zumba 5:30p                         | <b>11</b><br><br>Y BB 5-7:30p<br><br>Bootcamp<br>7:30 - 8:30 p | <b>12</b><br>A.O.A. 10 - 11a<br><br>Y BB 5-6:30p<br><br>Synthesis 6:30 p        | <b>13</b><br>Y BB 5-6:30p<br><br>Band 6:30 p<br><br>Finance 7:00p           | <b>14</b><br>A.O.A. 10 - 11a<br><br>Y BB 5-7p<br><br>Zumba 5:30p                    | <b>15</b> Choir 10-12<br>Y BB games 9a-<br>12p<br>Bootcamp 1-2p<br>STATIC Guys<br>all-nighter 9p-9a |
| <b>16</b><br><br><i>Lifetree Café</i><br>9:45 a  | <b>17</b><br>A.O.A. 10 - 11a<br>Y BB 5-7:30p<br>Zumba 5:30p<br>Trustees 6p<br>Ad Council 7p | <b>18</b><br><br>Y BB 5-7:30p<br><br>Bootcamp<br>7:30 - 8:30 p | <b>19</b><br>A.O.A. 10 - 11a<br><br>Y BB 5-6:30p<br><br>Synthesis 6:30 p        | <b>20</b><br>Girl Scouts 6p<br><br>Y BB 5-6:30p<br><br>Band 6:30 p          | <b>21</b><br>A.O.A. 10 - 11a<br>Y BB 5-7p<br>Zumba 5:30p<br>5th Quarter<br>w/Bethel | <b>22</b> Choir 10-12<br><br>Y BB games<br>9a-12p<br><br>Bootcamp 1-2p                              |
| <b>23</b><br><br><i>Lifetree Café</i><br>9:45 a  | <b>24</b><br>A.O.A. 10 - 11a<br><br>Y BB 5-7:30p<br><br>Zumba 5:30p                         | <b>25</b><br><br>Y BB 5-7:30p<br><br>Bootcamp<br>7:30 - 8:30 p | <b>26</b><br>A.O.A. 10 - 11a<br><br>Y BB 5-6:30p<br><br>Synthesis 6:30 p        | <b>27</b><br><br>Good Neighbors<br>Lunch 12p<br>Y BB 5-6:30p<br>Band 6:30 p | <b>28</b><br>A.O.A. 10 - 11a<br>Y BB 5-7p<br>Zumba 5:30p<br>5th Quarter<br>w/Bethel | <b>29</b> Choir 10-12<br><br>Y BB games<br>9a-12p<br><br>Bootcamp 1-2p                              |
| <b>30</b><br><br><i>Lifetree Café</i><br>9:45 a  | <b>31</b><br>A.O.A. 10 - 11a<br><br>Y BB 5-7:30p<br><br>Zumba 5:30p                         |  |   |   |   |   |



**SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP:**

8:30 a.m. Traditional Service  
11:00 a.m. Contemporary Service

**SUNDAY SCHOOL:**

9:45 a.m. For All Ages

**Mission Statement**

**The Mission of our church is to make disciples for Jesus,  
in our church, community, and throughout the world.**

**Vision Statement**

**Through the empowerment of the Holy Spirit we will:  
boldly love each other into spiritual maturity;  
serve our neighbors sacrificially;  
and spread the Good News of Jesus Christ!**



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