



VOICE OF FAITH

## The American Red Cross is looking for “Heroes”

There is an urgent appeal from the American Red Cross since blood is in desperate short supply. January & February donations were at their lowest level in a decade. Severe weather across the country has kept even loyal donors at home and the Red Cross says only three in every 100 people are regular blood donors as it is. Be a Hero and give blood, give another birthday, anniversary, day at the beach, another night under the stars, another talk with a friend, another laugh, another hug, another chance. You can be a Hero and put the Power of Faith into action and Save a Life!

**Power in the Blood  
American Red Cross Blood Drive  
Sunday, March 6, 2011  
10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.  
@ Faith UMC  
(in the Youth Room)**



## Ohio Benefit Bank

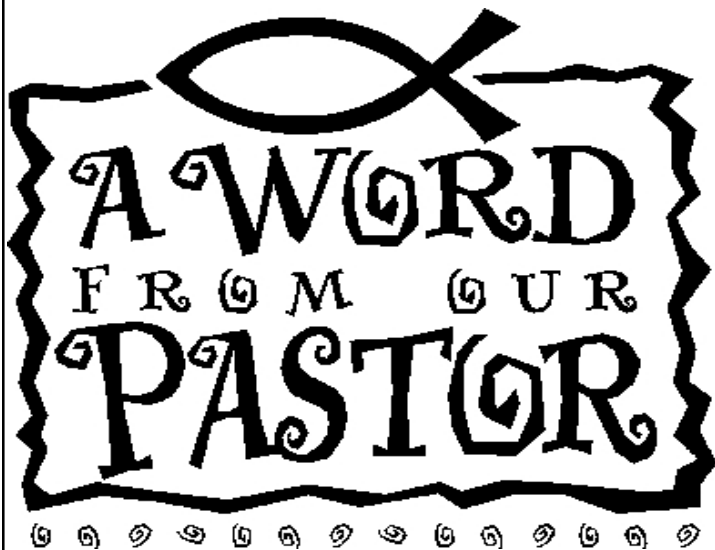
Help is available - for children, seniors and families. The Ohio Benefit Bank is an Internet-based program that helps Ohioans get answers to questions about help that is available. It reviews program guidelines and gives people the opportunity to apply for over 20 applications from one location. You can review guidelines, check eligibility and submit applications using the self-serve feature at

[WWW.OHIOBENEFITS.ORG](http://WWW.OHIOBENEFITS.ORG). If you would like to meet with a counselor, contact the Faith United Methodist Church office at 419-895-1011 and leave a message with the secretary. A counselor will get back to you to schedule a session.



## Important News & Updates

Please remember to check the website ([www.umcfait.com](http://www.umcfait.com)) for important news and updates regarding the “goings on” at The Outlet campus. You can learn of building closings due to bad weather, canceled meetings, updates to ministry programs, last minute changes, etc. Front & Center on the home page is where you will find the late breaking news. You can also find other helpful information on the website like Ministry Schedules, Lif-tree topics, SCRIP order forms, Voice of Faith newsletters, and much more. Don’t forget to check it out when you are searching for something about what’s going on at Faith UMC, The Outlet Café, S.T.A.T.I.C., etc.



March 9<sup>th</sup> is the beginning of the Lenten Season when we are to be involved in reflection, self-examination, and repentance. It is a sobering time when we are to strive to reconcile ourselves with God and our fellow human beings. Lent begins with Ash Wednesday (March 9), a day when we can receive the sign of the cross in ashes on our forehead (or back of the hand) as a symbol of our own mortality and need of grace.

Ashes are the residue of death. They are the ruins, the remains of something no longer alive, no longer with us. When something burns, it is consumed and all that remains are ashes as a remnant of what once was a reality. We receive the ashes as a symbol of our willingness to confront death and our death dealing ways.

It is among the ashes of our own lives that we give thanks for the grace that we can receive from God. It is among the ashes that we repent and ask for forgiveness, and receive grace. So it is fitting that we wear this sooty cross as we identify with Jesus and his journey toward death, and as we recognize and acknowledge our absolute need for the grace that he provided for us by his death in our place.

On Ash Wednesday (March 9) anytime between 6:00 am and 7:00 pm. you will have the opportunity to stop by our church to begin the Lenten Season with the imposition of the ashes in the shape of a small cross on your forehead or the back of your hand as a reminder of your mortality and your absolute need of the Grace of God. Simply come into the church and go to the first room on the left and there will be a staff member or prayer minister present to pray with you and impose the ashes on your hand or forehead as a reminder throughout your day, or evening that you are in need of God's grace.

We will then spend the first four Sundays in Lent (March 13, 20, 27, and April 3) in a worship series called the *Gracecard* that connects with a movie by the same name that is being released in theaters in late February. We also hope that some of our Sunday School classes, and small groups will choose to offer the *Gracecard Study* as well.

Our praise band played a song recently called *Personal Jesus*. The invitation of the song was to be an instrument of God to those around us by listening, caring, and responding to needs we recognize in their lives. In the song the "personal" Jesus was then actually manifested in the love, care, and help offered by one flesh and blood human being to another. As we recognize our own need for the Grace of God, we greatly increase our becoming a manifestation of Christ to the people around us.

The Lenten Season has the potential to position us to be reconciled to God and to people around us. I invite you to begin the journey on March 9<sup>th</sup>, Ash Wednesday.

Blessings,  
Pastor Mike

## **The Bishop is coming! The Bishop is coming!**

Mark your calendars now because Bishop Hopkins will be with us on April 10. We will have one combined worship service at 11:00 a.m. followed by a Fellowship Meal. We will also be hosting the Spring District Conference at 3:00 p.m. that day. Come and meet the Leader of the United Methodist Churches for the East Ohio Conference.

# Cougar Tracks

I would like to start by thanking those that are serving week by week and month to month in the ministries of Faith UMC. You are such a blessing and without you Jesus couldn't shine the way He does through our church. We wouldn't have had a Family Fun Festival or a Christmas Party or even a Superbowl Party. There would be no Lifetree Café, Bonfires or Café activities after Crestview home games. But because you do step up, we are able to be the hands & feet of Jesus as we are called to be. As a result we have had many new families continue to join the family of Faith. In fact, we have had at least one new family that has begun worshipping with us on a regular basis from each Outreach event. Some have even

found places where they fit in the body of Christ. Folks, this is Good News! My deepest appreciation goes to all of you that I serve with.

Last month, was dedicated to pioneering across state route 96 at the Crestview Local Schools. Our efforts are already panning out. The Cougar Cheerleaders are now practicing at our facility and we have had some wrestlers hang out in the Café after school while playing X-Box for something to do. Although we have plenty of tools for them to utilize while they observe us being Christians, we still run short of volunteers for some after school activities/ministries. Again, if you would like to help in our Outreach efforts or our Christian Ed efforts (Nursery, Children's Church, Hi-Def, etc.) we would love to welcome you. There are a few simple steps to go through to be a qualified person to minister to our youth but they are painless and fairly quick I assure you.

So as we continue to pioneer and extend the kingdom for a better tomorrow, please join us. The Evangelism Team is currently planning a chaperoned dance as an after school event for the Middle Schoolers very soon. We also have another *HUGE* event on the horizon planned for the entire area including Ashland, Mansfield, Galion, Greenwich, Shelby and of course Crestview. If you are interested in becoming part of our Faith Team please contact the appropriate Team Leader listed below for your area of interest or go to our website ([www.umcfaith.com](http://www.umcfaith.com)) as an additional resource.

Always yours in Christ,  
Dan Davis

Outreach Chair, Renee Davis  
Christian Ed Chair, Tina Birchell  
Worship Chair, Connie Oswald  
Member Care Chair,  
Phyllis Harrington

# S.T.A.T.I.C. News

For many, February is a month that reminds them of those they love. Maybe I am just a cynic but the "love month" is very comical to me. I'm sure there are others who share my thoughts about Valentine's Day but I hope that February was more than just roses and a box of chocolates. There is something special about February that many miss every year. That "special something" is very important and many of us have no clue what it is. Many people especially our youth, struggle with the concept of love. Love can be many things but this past month S.T.A.T.I.C. focused on the

greatest love ever known. God's love for us is unmeasureable. It's nice to know that we have someone who loves us more than anything or anyone on this planet. Sometimes we get so caught up on little things like relationships with the opposite sex that we believe that is the best love ever and we lose focus of the highest form of love. This past month I challenged our youth to consider if they truly knew what love was. As teens they have many traps to overcome along the path of life. Traps like: love is a boy/girlfriend who wants to take their relationship to another level or if you loved me you would change this about yourself... the list goes on forever. The point I want to make is love was created by God so why would we look anywhere else to understand what love truly is?  
Jared Foos



This month I will take the opportunity to take care of some housekeeping duties. We still have several items left in the Café from the Cookie Walk in December. The items are on the sound cabinet in the corner of the main dining area. If you donated cookies for the cookie walk or the celebration Sunday in December, please check to see if any of the items belong to you. If they are not claimed by the end of March, they will be donated to Goodwill.

Alaine Beck is stepping down from the Assistant Manager's position with the beginning of March. She will continue as the primary cook for the YMCA Day-care/Preschool. Alaine has decided to pursue her Master's degree and will need the extra time for classes and study. We wish her all the best!

Business seems to be picking up gradually. We have started a delivery service to the schools over lunch time and we will see how that grows. We also began Tuesday morning breakfast specials each week in an attempt to increase breakfast sales. Our hope is that persons who are retired or free at that time will begin to meet for breakfast or coffee and socialize like what happens at places in town. I have a couple of other

ideas for specials too but probably won't implement them until after my daughter, Amanda's wedding. Watch for other things in mid to late March.

A special note to our church family: on Wednesday nights we are open for S.T.A.T.I.C. Synthesis until 7:00 p.m. During that time we would be happy to serve you as well.

Please remember that there are volunteer sheets posted with lots of opportunities to serve on the bulletin board in the Café Office hallway. If you sign up at least two weeks in advance we won't have to schedule staff and that helps a lot especially during our infancy stage of getting things up and running.

In the service of our Lord,  
Sharon Boyce



**L I F E T R E E**  
**C A F É**

**"Doing life. Doing good."**

So why haven't you given Lifetree Café a try yet? Is it because Sunday is one of the few days you get to sleep in? Is it because you like your current Sunday School class? Is it because the subject of some of the Lifetree Café episodes are "out there"?

All of these are pretty good reasons. But did you know we have a Wednesday night episode at 7:00 PM each week? Did you know the reason we discuss what are sometimes considered to be "non churchy" topics is because we are trying to reach out to non

churchy people?

When we discussed "Our Love Affair With Vampires" it wasn't to say that loving vampires is a good thing, or that if you like vampire movies you are a bad person. The episode drew a comparison about what intrigues us about vampires, and how, if people could really see God for who and what He is, they would find all the intrigue they need in Him.

But if you still don't want to discuss vampires, that's OK. How about "A Reason To Live" (A story of hope from Rwanda) or a conversation to explore if there's any way to know what the future holds for us. Could you use some practical help in preventing meth use? Have you ever wondered, "Can God Love A Mess Like Me?" Best-selling author of *The Shack*, William Paul Young, shares his struggles of abuse and scandal in an exclusive film at Lifetree Café.

Consider this your personal invitation. Pick a topic and come join the conversation.

In Christ's Love  
Mary Hodgson

# SCRIP Report

**February Proceeds: \$223.15**  
**Running Total to Date: \$19,948.53**

A great big THANK YOU to all of you Kroger patrons who have registered your Kroger Card for the Community Rewards benefit to Faith UMC. I just want to remind you all that your registration lasts for only one year, from April 1<sup>st</sup> – March 31<sup>st</sup>. Therefore, no matter when you designated Faith UMC for Community Rewards you will need to re-register April 1<sup>st</sup> or as close to that time as you can so that we will not lose any accumulating rewards from your Kroger shopping. It is very quick and easy to do at the website [www.krogercommunityrewards.com](http://www.krogercommunityrewards.com). I will be reminding you again next month. Thanks so much for taking the time to earn free money for our church loan payment.

In addition, please keep our SCRIP program in mind

when you are making your normal weekly purchases such as gasoline and groceries, as well as when you are doing any special project such as home improvements or landscaping this summer. Restaurants pay us the largest percentage, so don't forget to stock up on SCRIP for your favorite ones.

SCRIP order forms are available at the Information Corner in the church lobby. You may give me your order form and check directly, or you may put it in my mailbox in the church office. If you are short on time, give me a call at 419-522-4422 and order your SCRIP cards by phone or email me at [marileeacy@yahoo.com](mailto:marileeacy@yahoo.com). You will receive your cards the following Sunday or we can arrange delivery before then if necessary. Please let me help you in any way that I can. This is such a great way for us to help make our monthly church building loan payments.

Let's work together to ease our building loan payment burden by earning free cash that costs *you* nothing. Thanks for your continuing interest and participation.

Marilee Yarger



**Faith UMC**  
**General Fund**  
**January Report**

Revenue		
	Offerings	14,252.77
	Capital Funds	6,254.43
	Lifetree Café	1,545.76
	SCRIPT	2,595.00
	Bank Interest	2.44
	Food Pantry	105.00
	Misellaneous	100.00
	<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>24,855.40</b>
Expenses		
	General Fund	25,593.55
	Building Loan Pay	8,098.29
	Lifetree Café	1,338.30
	SCRIPT	1,691.69
	Food Pantry	0.00
	<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>36,721.83</b>

# Birthdays & Anniversaries

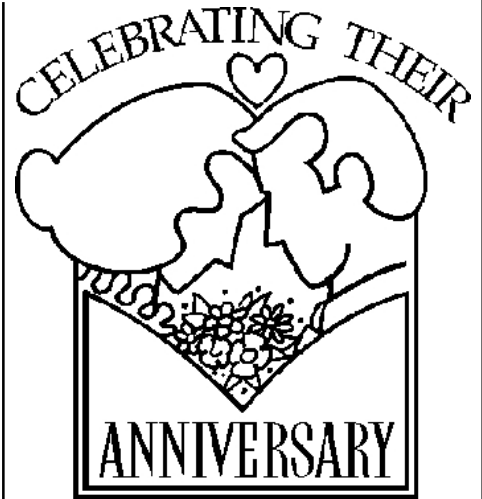


- 2 Mike Baker
- 3 Dave Cardwell
- 7 Stephanie Hodgson
- 11 Jackie Mack
- 12 Marj Pond
- 13 Jon Clevenger
- 15 Rowland Dumm
- 18 Faith Oswalt
- 19 Alexa Finley
- 20 Rex Yarger
- 21 Judy Ringler
- 22 Scott Osbourne

- 23 Mary Hodgson
- 24 Macie Boardman
- 24 Brian Birchell
- 25 Leo Ringler
- 25 Stephanie Boardman
- 26 Sonja Powers/Meyer
- 26 Ken Boyce
- 26 Audrey Vigneron
- 26 Dave Shoup
- 26 Alice Gurik
- 27 Nathaniel Powers
- 29 Becky Oswalt
- 31 Caity Campbell

### Dayspring Residents

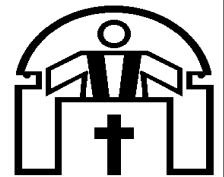
- 1 Florine Dorn
- 6 Larry Rose
- 7 David Nead
- 14 Robert Reed
- 20 Dorothy Ball
- 29 Terri Goff



- 1 Rowland & Kathy Dumm(19th)
- 11 James & Esther Hong (3rd)
- 25 Brent & Amy Chance (16th)
- 26 Jack & Janet Dyson (57th)



## March Lection



### March 6

674 Psalm 31:1-8 (1st response)  
 Matthew 7:21-29  
 \*Deuteronomy 11:16-21, 26-28

### March 13

766 Psalm 32  
 Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7  
 \*Grace Awakening

### March 20

844 Psalm 121 (1st response)  
 Romans 4:1-5, 13-17  
 \*Grace Overflowing

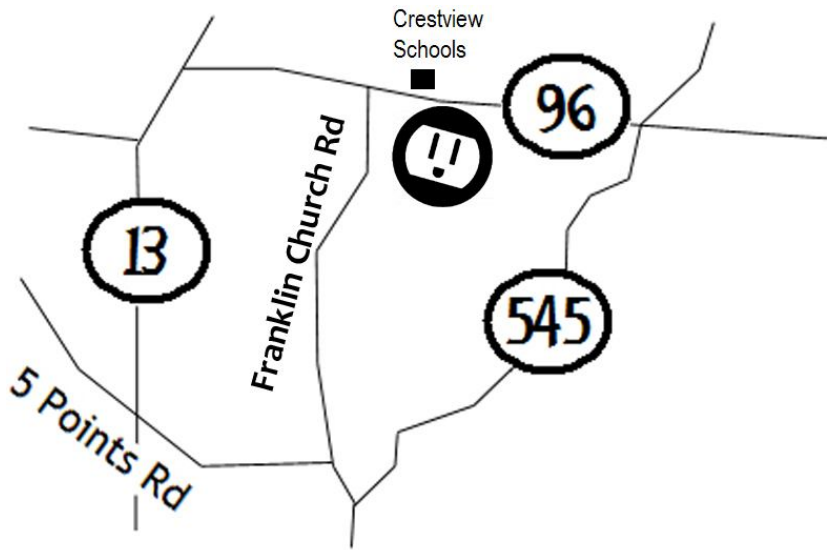
### March 27

814 Psalm 95 (1st response)  
 Exodus 17:1-7  
 \*Grace Lessons

\*Denotes Sermon Text

# March 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<i>Legend:</i>  <i>A.O.A. = Active Older Adults</i>		1  Bootcamp 7 - 8 p	2  A.O.A. 10 - 11 a Synthesis 6:30 p Lifetree Café 7 p	3  Girl Scouts 6 p Spiritual Gifts Course 6:30 p Band 6:30 p	4  A.O.A. 10 - 11 a Zumba 5:30 p	5  Choir 10a - 12p Bootcamp 1 - 2p
6 Red Cross Blood Drive 10a - 2p  Farm Gang 4H mtg. 6:00 p	7  A.O.A. 10 - 11 a Zumba 5:30 p Staff Parish 7 p	8  Audit Mtg. 1 p TCN Lay Minis- try Course 6:30p Bootcamp 7 - 8 p	9  A.O.A. 10 - 11 a Synthesis 6:30 p Lifetree Café 7 p Café Board 7 p	10  Spiritual Gifts Course 6:30 p Band 6:30 p	11  A.O.A. 10 - 11 a Zumba 5:30 p	12  Choir 10a - 12p Bootcamp 1 - 2p
13  Prayer Ministers Mtg. 9:45 a  Child Protection Training 12:15 p	14  A.O.A. 10 - 11 a Zumba 5:30 p	15  TCN Lay Minis- try Course 6:30p Bootcamp 7 - 8 p	16  A.O.A. 10 - 11 a Synthesis 6:30 p Lifetree Café 7 p	17  Girl Scouts 6 p Spiritual Gifts Course 6:30 p Band 6:30 p	18  A.O.A. 10 - 11 a Zumba 5:30 p	19  Choir 10a - 12p S.T.A.T.I.C. 3 on 3 Tourna- ment 10a - 5p Bootcamp 1 - 2p
20  Lifetree Café 9:45 a  Sunday School (all ages) 9:45 a	21  A.O.A. 10 - 11 a Zumba 5:30 p Trustees 7 p Finance 7 p	22  TCN Lay Minis- try Course 6:30p Bootcamp 7 - 8 p	23  A.O.A. 10 - 11 a Synthesis 6:30 p Lifetree Café 7 p	24  Spiritual Gifts Course 6:30 p Band 6:30 p	25  A.O.A. 10 - 11 a Zumba 5:30 p Worship Night Hosted by: Awakening 8p	26  Choir 10a - 12p Bootcamp 1 - 2p Lay Minister's Gathering 6 p
27  Lifetree Café 9:45 a  Sunday School (all ages) 9:45 a	28  A.O.A. 10 - 11 a Zumba 5:30 p	29  TCN Lay Minis- try Course 6:30p Bootcamp 7 - 8 p	30  A.O.A. 10 - 11 a Synthesis 6:30 p Lifetree Café 7 p	31  Good Neighbors Lunch 12:00 p Spiritual Gifts Course 6:30 p Band 6:30 p		



**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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