



## Widening Our Reach

As I was driving down to church last month, I pulled onto I 75 South. As I approached the Glendale/Sharonville exit, I came upon familiar sight—orange cones indicating a “Construction Zone”. This part of the road has been under construction for several months now. This area of the freeway has never been wide enough to accommodate all of the traffic. It routinely caused slow-downs, delays and even stopped traffic. When they started working on the road here, I was glad to see it.

People had been putting up with the slow traffic for years and always wishing that things would move faster. But until this year, no one had ever come up with a strategy for how to widen the road. But, now, there was a new possibility for much needed expansion. And each day as I drive by, I can see evidence that the work is begin completed. Soon there will be a smoother, wider, freeway. No more cones. No more slow-downs. No more frustrating delays. Even though the changes are temporarily inconvenient, I am willing to put up with them because I can envision a beautiful, newly paved road that is in my future.

As I passed this familiar site last month, I thought about how much this road construction is similar to a church that is trying to widen its reach in the community and to grow it membership. Many churches choose not to make the necessary changes. In order to avoid inconvenience or discomfort of any kind, they just keep driving down the same old road—and complain that nothing is happening. They may have desires and wishes for their church, but they have no starting point—no strategic plan to “widen the road.”

For the past 18 months, I have been hearing the

wishes and dreams that you have for your church. You have expressed a desire to see more children and young adults here. You have expressed a desire to engage in mission outside the walls of the church and to serve the people of our community. You have taken seriously the results of our Reveal Spiritual Growth survey that indicates a need for us to grow deeper in our relationship with Christ. These are the “Construction projects” that are before us in 2020 and beyond. The question for us is, “Are we willing to just keep dreaming and hoping that these changes will happen in our church? Or are we ready to make a plan, develop a strategy, and get the construction work started even if it will sometimes be inconvenient, go slower than we want, or take extra effort on everyone’s part?”

Sunday, October 13th is Vision Casting Day. On this Sunday, I will be asking you to consider three important strategies for us to “widen the reach” of our church. Our guiding scripture for that day is Ephesians 3:18 that says, “...and you, being rooted and established in love may have power together with all the Lord’s people to grasp how wide, how long, and high and deep is the love of Christ.” It’s time to widen our church’s reach so that love can grow in and us and through us so that others may experience it for themselves. This is a great day to invite someone to church to join the “Construction Crew.”

See you in church

*Pastor Carne*



## Matthew 25 Ministries

Below are the upcoming dates:

9/21

10/26

11/23

12/21

All times are 9-11 AM

Meet at the Matthew 25 building: 11060 Kenwood Rd, Blue Ash, OH 45242. Questions: Contact Lisa Cox: [coxalisa728@gmail.com](mailto:coxalisa728@gmail.com) or 661-8487.



## Westfed Food Pantry

Items needed: cereal, crackers, can corn, and large paper grocery bags. Check the Sunday bulletin for additional needs that may occur throughout the month. Donation baskets are outside the Werner Lounge. Donation envelopes are available on the Welcome Tables. Please make checks out to CUMC with the memo: Westfed.

Thank you for supporting our neighborhood mission.



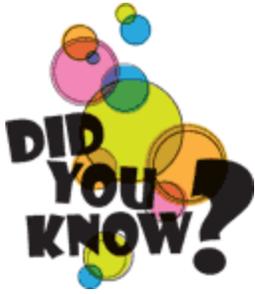
## Missions – OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

The mission offering for September will be designated for the Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes. This organization collects shoeboxes every year filled with gifts and delivers them to children in need around the world. After the children receive their gift, they have an opportunity to enroll in a 12 lesson follow-up discipleship program. As a result of what they learn, boys and girls grow in Christ and share Him with others. The donations will be used for items needed for the boxes and postage. There will also be an opportunity for you to fill a shoebox to donate. The Children and Youth Ministry Team will have information and empty shoeboxes available for you to fill in October. You will also have an opportunity to donate items, if you don't want to fill a whole box.

## Leadership Training

Pastor Carrie will be holding a leadership training on Saturday November 16th from 9 a.m. to noon. This is for everyone that is a chair and/or committee member this year and for those who will be coming on committees starting in 2020. Please RSVP no later than November 10th by marking it on the Count-Me-In sheet, emailing Pastor Carrie ([pastorcarrie123@gmail.com](mailto:pastorcarrie123@gmail.com)) or calling the Church office @ 662-2048. This training helps all of us to work better together so we can grow in to make more Disciples for Jesus Christ.





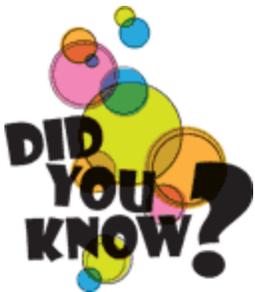
That upon Gary Mohr's retirement as the Church Bus Driver in May 2019, he logged in almost 30 years (*and only God knows how many miles*) of safely driving the bus (*rain or shine*). He drove SAM to lunches all over the Greater Cincinnati Area, Easter Pageants at the Nazarene Church, Christmas light displays, Young's Dairy Farm in Yellow Springs, Potter's Ranch, dinner theatres at LaComedia and Cincinnati Bible College, the Toyota Plant in Georgetown, an underground tour in Louisville and an Indiana popcorn factory – to name a few!

During the 1990's, Gary patiently transported the Youth Group to its many Sunday dinners, retreats, outings and most notably 3 trips to Ichthus in Wilmore, Kentucky.

He willingly shuttled Trunk or Treat families every Autumn, and when other requests for group transportation arose, he graciously stepped up.

As we all know, Gary was more than the "bus driver". He enjoyed the people and was always ready with a smile and a "hand up" or "hand down". And whenever the bus needed servicing, he was there to assist as well.

For Gary's friendship, dedication and faithful service to us with his "Bus Ministry", the church family extends our sincere thank you!



The pictures in the Upper Room (formerly the Chapel) are of the Stained Glass Windows on either side of the Chancel. There are six of them as there are six panels of symbols, three on each side of the altar table. Our own Pastor Carrie did the photography and took pictures of these six symbols, put them in frames and now they are in our Upper Room for all to see. What a great way to see these symbols. Check them out for yourself. Now you know where these pictures of the symbols came from. Thanks, Pastor Carrie for sharing your gift of photography with us.

## Women Events

1. **All ladies:** Save the date for the fall women's retreat to be held the evening of Friday, Nov. 1 and the morning/afternoon of Saturday, Nov. 2. The theme for the retreat is "Faith: Receiving it Yesterday, Living it Today and Passing it on Tomorrow". The event will be held at the Aston Woods (not Aston Oaks) clubhouse. Registration will begin in mid-September. Keep posted for more details!
2. **Sarah Circle** will be gathering together on Tuesday, Sept. 24 at 7pm to continue our work with raising social awareness around issues concerning women and children, serving local groups such as Cheviot School and the Twin Towers Auxiliary and having some fun together as women of CUMC. All women are invited to attend and bring a friend!
3. **The women's ministries team** is looking to provide programming that will help the physical, emotional and financial lives of women. As part of this effort, we will be participating in a few upcoming fall walks. The first one coming up is the Hike for Hospice on Saturday, Sept. 7. The walk will start at 9:30 am in Summit Park in Blue Ash. Registration information can be found on the following web site: [bethesdafoundation.com](http://bethesdafoundation.com). Click on the events tab and you will see the hike listed. You can also contact Vicki Groh (661-5852 or [vgroh@zoomtown.com](mailto:vgroh@zoomtown.com)) for more information. Save the following dates for additional fall hikes: Walk to End Alzheimer's on Oct. 5 and The Matthew 25 Hunger 5K run/walk on Nov. 9. Join us this fall as we walk for fun, fitness and to support important organizations in our community!



### New Preschool Choir Starting This Fall Cherub Choir

Starting: September 4, 2019  
Ages: 3 – 5 years old (that are not in Kindergarten)  
When: Wednesday evenings 6:30 – 6:50 pm  
Where: Children's Ministry Room  
Each week we will be learning Bible songs such as Jesus Loves Me, The B-I-B-L-E, God is so Good and more. We will also explore musical concepts using rhythm sticks, shakers, triangles, drums, bells and various other instruments.

If you have a child or grandchild that would like to sing and play instruments, I would love to have them join us.

They don't have to be a member of CUMC to be a part of this experience.

Contact Anne Schummer:

H (513) 661-2424

C (513) 703-0962

E-mail: [piano@fuse.net](mailto:piano@fuse.net)



### Choristers Choir Starting Up

Starting: September 4, 2019

Ages: Kindergarten thru 6<sup>th</sup> grade

When: Wednesday evenings 6:50 – 7:30 pm (New start time)

Where: Children's Ministry Room

We will be learning songs to sing in Worship services throughout the year. We will use the Hand chimes, Non Pitched instruments such as rhythm sticks, drums and playing Orff instruments (Xylophones, Metallophones).



9/2 Tom Kindervater  
Mary Ann Meyer  
9/3 Cathy Davis  
9/4 Gerald Perry  
9/5 Kathy Hamilton  
9/6 Lori Roush  
9/9 Janet Koehler  
Anne Schummer  
9/10 Carol Gangwer  
9/12 Zach Nose  
9/13 Dick Becker  
Rachel Davis  
Renee Heine  
9/14 Lynn Krebs  
9/15 Mark Schummer

9/17 Jim Harris  
Kathleen Smith  
Claude Zerby  
9/18 Emily Phillips  
9/19 Doug Grosse  
Lois Johannes  
Mary Scott  
Amanda St. John  
9/20 Ed Lunsford  
9/22 Jim Koch  
9/23 Chuck Cummings  
9/25 Ken Boesherz  
9/29 Dave Atkinson  
John Michael Frischmann  
9/30 Joyce Hoffman  
Anna Lawson  
Lisa McGill

9/7 Daina & Pam Outt  
9/9 Michael Romanello &  
Mary Painter-Romanello  
Rick & Linda Specker  
9/11 Denny & Arlene Meyer  
9/12 Marc & Nancy Phillips  
9/16 Gene & Sharon Bagchle  
9/19 Tom & Julie Struckman  
9/22 Tom & Sue Kindervater  
9/25 Pete & Debbie Wade  
9/29 Dave & Cathy Atkinson



12 September  
Evening

Come, join the choir! You get:

1. Free music lessons
2. An opportunity to perform on a regular basis
3. A guaranteed audience
4. One of the best seats in the house, even on important holidays like Christmas and Easter
5. A delightful mid-week gathering with friends (no club fees)
6. The incentive not to skip church on Sundays or special occasions for which your presence is required
7. A perfect view of the congregation. You can observe who pays attention, fall asleep, has a new hairdo, brings a friend
8. A reprieve from wearing your Sunday best. Nobody will see what you have under your robe.
9. A chance to snicker at the preacher's bad jokes - behind his/her back.
10. The satisfaction that you perform an important ministry within the church.
11. The joyful feeling of praising the Lord with your singing.
12. The elation that comes from keeping a song in our hearts.

# THANKS AND MORE THANKS

My prayers and thanks go out for all the cards and phone calls that I received.  
You don't know how much it made me feel to be blessed by such a loving and caring church Family.  
God Bless, Vera Wertz



I would like to thank the SAM group for the *Bus Driver Retirement Luncheon*. It was a TOTAL surprise and turned into quite the emotional day for me. I always felt appreciated but this was over the top.

For 30 years I kept 2 eyes on the road, 2 hands on the wheel and always returned safely and "three cheers to the bus driver".

Thanks for all the cards, gifts and the miles of smiles.

This is the day.

Gary Mohr

I would like to say thank you to all the members of CUMC who sent me wishes for a speedy recovery from my recent surgery and medical treatment! The power of prayer! Worked! Each day since the surgery, I have been doing better and am slowly resuming normal activity. I sincerely appreciate Pastor Carrie for her personal phone call and prayers.

Thank you all and may God Bless Us All!

Joe Ficorilli

My heart is blessed by all cards, visits, thoughts and prayers that have been extended to me. Losing Ken was so hard, but I knew it was in God's hands.

Thanks to my church family,  
Shirley Durbin

## **Thank You**

Thank you so much for your prayers, encouragement and the beautiful quilt!

I treasure my CUMC family.

Love,

Sharon Ackermann

# This Ain't Eden—Part !!

by Lois Schalk-Hartley

## Coming Home to the Father's House

No, this is not Eden, but right now just like the Prodigal Son the Father is calling us to come back Home.

I said in the last article that after the “fall of Adam and Eve”, the whole Bible is the story of “Redemption”. Having lost His children to sin, God the Father is calling His children to “come back home”.

God chooses a nation through whom He reveals Himself. The nation of Israel which God raises up is the Nation, the culture through which God chooses to reveal Himself.

In Israel's culture the family was very important. And the patriarch was responsible for the well being of the whole family. The family of the Patriarch could include three generations. The Patriarch of this household was both legally and economically responsible for everyone in it. Should the father die, the firstborn male child would replace his father and receive a double portion of the family estate.

The bet-ab (Hebrew), the Father's House was the safe place, the place of refuge for the people of Israel.

In the New Testament in John 14 Jesus says that “in my Father's House are many rooms or dwelling places”. He is saying that all who come back home to the “Father's House” through repentance and redemption will one day live with Him there in the “Father's House”.

The goal of redemption is not a mansion by and by but becoming a true child of God now, becoming a part of God's Household now and living with our Heavenly Father in His bet-ab one day forever.



That's why the Heavenly Father sent His only Son to this earth!

Redemption has to do with the Father rescuing His lost children and lovingly calling them to “come back home”!

In the Book, “The Epic of Eden” we read,

“The Heavenly Father is presenting Himself as patriarch of the family who has announced His intent to redeem His lost family members. Not only has He agreed to pay whatever ransom is required, but He has sent the most cherished member of His household to accomplish His intent—His first born Son. And not only is the firstborn Son coming to seek and to save the lost, but He is coming to share His inheritance with those who have squandered everything they have been given. His goal? To restore the lost family members to the Father's bet-ab so that where He is, they may be also.”

Oh what a picture of the Father's Love. Just like the father of the prodigal son waited and watched for his lost son, the Heavenly Father watches and waits for His lost children to come home!

As a member of God's family we enter into a relationship here on this earth with our Heavenly Father through Jesus Christ our Savior. Here and now all of the promises of Jesus become ours. We no longer are alone, we have “come home”.

If you have not yet “come home” please open up your heart today!



Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
Cincinnati, Ohio  
Permit. No. 2775

Cheviot United Methodist Church  
3820 Westwood Northern Blvd.  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45211-2597  
(513) 662-2048  
www.cheviotumc.com

Address Service Requested

**Cheviot United Methodist Church Contact Info**

- Carrie Jena, Pastor ..... pastorcarrie123@gmail.com
- Lois Schalk-Hartley, Assoc. Pastor ..... awriter@fuse.net
- Church Office/Prayer Requests ..... office@cheviotumc.com
- Katie Golek & Ashley Rhodes, Youth Ministry  
..... youth@cheviotumc.com
- Juanita Woodburn, Flower Orders ..flowers@cheviotumc.com
- Carol Gangwer, Choir ..... cgangwer@fuse.net
- Marcia Lucas, Bells ..... mslucas@zoomtown.com
- Anne Schummer, Children/Youth Choir/Bells piano@fuse.net
- Lynn Krebs, Facilities ..... lynn@cheviotumc.com
- Promotions ..... communications@cheviotumc.com



**Traditional Worship—Sanctuary**

**10:20 a.m.**

**Sunday School (All Ages)**

**11:15 a.m.**

**Contemporary Worship—Fellowship Hall**

**Our vision is to connect and serve all people so that lives are transformed and empowered through the love of Christ.**