



The Bell



Heavenly Trash XXVII 2010

I am so happy to report that we had a FABULOUS Garage Sale! I know our Garage Sale Angels, Dick Gibbs and Dick Johnson, are smiling down on us. We will always love and miss them. A huge THANK YOU to all who helped in any way. I know you all worked longer and harder than ever before and you did it with a smile in your heart for our Garage Sale Angels and for our Lord. It paid off, not only in the money (we made \$20,209.08) but in fun, fellowship, community outreach, and helping other charities.

We donated our leftovers to the Autism Thrift Store in Warren and the Shreve United Methodist church near Wooster, OH, where they have a huge garage sale and use the money to build homes for the homeless in Cuba. **Sue Baker's** cousin heads up this mission and I thank Sue for helping us find a place to donate the things we don't sell. I also want to thank **Jo Moser** for lining up the Autism Thrift Store for us. It has been getting harder and harder to find places that will take what we don't sell and I'm so thankful to Sue and Jo.

However you helped—donating junk, baked goods, money for pizza and donuts, trucks, strong backs, working before, during, and after the sale, cooking for the workers, clean up (the best ever!), setting up (also the best ever!), giving us all big hugs—no matter how you helped—THANK YOU!

We had 25 departments—Big Junk, Little Junk, Sports, Electronics, Jewelry, Antiques, Bake Sale, Pizza & Donuts, Baby Room, Books, Shoes, Parking Lot, Tent, Set Up, Clean Up, Strong Backs, Large Item Pickup, Clothes, Decorator Items, Linens, Housewares, Toys, Publicity, Trucks, Money Counters. To all the department heads—thank you, thank you, thank you! The sale has grown so big I can't even list all of you, but you know who you are and you are all true blessings.

We had more help than ever and for that I am truly grateful. Thank you to all those who made us laugh and cry during the announcements. I love to laugh and all of you made us do just that. **Lori's** "Danny Boy" was so beautiful I saw a lot of tears, too. Also thank you to **Frank and the choir** for "Sending in the Clowns" ... we loved it!

Our "Rookie of the Year" award goes to **Pete Chiodo**. He and his family are in the new member class and already he's worked at the Garage Sale, has taken two plots to landscape, and offers his help in any way. Thank you, Pete! (P.S.—he makes great meatballs, too!)

Pastor Ron announced that I'm looking for an "heir to the throne." Don't be too surprised—I've been looking for one for years. I'm not planning to retire in the near future, but there will come a day when the old bones give out and I'll have to retire. I'd just like to find a person who would take over when that happens, and between now and then I could train them. I love the Garage Sale with all my heart and I hope I can do it for years to come, but I so want it to continue when I can't.

(Continued in next column.)

Members In Service

Trustee-of-the-month for May

Les Hileman

Altar Flowers for May

- 2 Harry & Fern Taylor
- 9 Zwetzig Family/K. Shirley
- 16 C. Janosik
- 23
- 30

Call the church office if you would like to provide flowers on any open date this month. Cost is \$23.

Ushers for May

George Ray, *captain*; Dick Lytle, Tom & Bonnie Johnson, Betty Allen, Mike Taylor, Bob McDonald, Ed Sheldon

Staff

Ronald C. Spore, *pastor*
Andy McCracken, *lay leader*
Patty Davis, *secretary*
Frank McCauley, *director of music*
Lori Seinar-Roknick, *organist/accompanist*
Robert Gray, *director of music emeritus*
Nancy Hoy, *acting director*,
Christian Preschool
Logan Sturgeon, *custodian*
Beth Ferrell, *missionary*
John L. Hopkins, *resident bishop EOC*
Dan Bryant, *superintendent*,
Mahoning Valley District

So if you'd like to join the "Royal Family" please let me know! And speaking of the "Royal Family," my son Chris was here for the sale on Saturday and as always he loved seeing his church family. Do you know what he liked doing? Clean up! I don't remember that being his favorite thing when he lived at home!!

Again, thank you all for everything and God bless you in every way.

Much love,

Mary, *Queen of Junk*

Dear Friends of the Church:

Author Bob Benson writes:

"Sometimes I talk to people who seem to think that God is playing musical chairs and that every so often, he just stops the music. There isn't any rhyme or reason or fairness to it, it's just whether you were around the corner when it stopped. And whether or not you can now beat some big guy to the last chair, and every time the music stops, somebody has to drop out. No wonder they don't like God. I wouldn't like him either if I thought he was playing musical chairs with us.

"But God has a chair for everybody. If you end up on the floor, it won't be because God didn't have a chair for you. It will be because you won't sit in it. And God plays the music on and on to give you every opportunity to find your place."

(as told in "See You At the House": The Very Best of the Stories He Used to Tell (Nashville: Generoux, 1986)

God has a chair for everybody! And God keeps playing the music to give you every opportunity to find a seat.

What a great image for God's Kingdom!

As I write this, I am thrilled to be welcoming ten members of the 2009-10 confirmation class who take their vows of commitment to the church on Sunday, May 2, including **Taylor Craig, Michael Drew, Nick Krupa, Michael Manginelli, Shannon McClain, Tyler Messina, Nick Michael, Heather Noble, Drew Taylor, and Emelia Sherin**. I thank Rick France, youth director, who has guided these young people through the year and prepared them for the giant step they are taking. And I thank the mentors and parents, families and friends who have provided support and encouragement along the way.

Each one of these young men and women has made a decision to accept the seat God has for them as the music continues to play. Each one has made a decision to take for himself or herself the vows that were made at their baptisms: to reject the spiritual forces of evil in the world, to repent of sin, to accept the freedom and power God gives them to resist evil, injustice and oppression, to confess Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, and to put their trust in his grace, to remain faithful to Christ's holy church, and walk the way of Christ in the world, and to participate in the ministry of the church by their prayers, their presence, their gifts, and their service.

These are awesome responsibilities that will become more and more clear as these confirmands progress on their journeys of faith, living out the physical, intellectual and spiritual gifts God has given them.

At the same time the confirmands have been preparing to join the church as full members, more than twenty adults have been preparing to make the same commitment to the Church. On Sunday, May 16, these adults will take their own vows of commitment to the United Methodist Church and our local Howland church. It has been my great joy to get to know each one and to grow confident of the gifts and graces they all bring to this congregation. Their enthusiasm for Christ and his Church adds to the growing body of faith we share, and I look forward with joy to bringing all of them into the full life of our church.

I know that each of you will reach out to welcome these new members and to invite them to be part of our many ministry, mission, and service teams as we seek to serve God always "to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world."

Keep listening for the music!
Blessings and peace,

Pastor Ron 



Dear Church Family,

The surprise party for my 90th birthday was such a special and happy day for me. I wish to thank all who sent me the many cards for my birthday.

I love you all,
Howard Headley

Thank you to **John Penman** for the donation of a very nice Delta faucet set to be used for the kitchen sink. Thank you to **Larry Hawkins** for installing the faucet.

The Trustees

Larry Hawkins has completed a much needed church project. Thank you for replacing several broken floor tiles in the Fellowship Hall and hallway. We appreciate your good work, Larry.

The Trustees

Dear Congregation of HUM Church,

Thank you so much for the Easter lily. I believe it was Gene & Dorothy Heitzenrater who delivered it. I was still a bed and did not see them. My husband told me Dorothy and that she said I used to put the Bell together with her. Sorry to miss you. Thank you very much.

Vivian Eazor

Please pray for...

HUM Members: Bob Gray, Carl Isom, Gene Stefani, Bette Champ, Joanne Thomas, Colin Hamilton, Jim Ponevac, Nancy Hildenbrand, Dolores Allsopp, Desirae Sanfroy

Friends and Family: Todd Santti, Diana Barreto, Nick Macrinos, Fred Norton, Susan Cunningham, Donna Thorpe, David El Hatton, Ellen Becker, Jan Kazonyi-Rokus, Marsha Wissinger, Luke Holko, Julie Carbone, Greg Flick, Cheryl Boyd, Aaron Kent, Jim Barber, Maria Sybelnek, Joe Holland, Dorothy Hritz, Jack Rudloff, Tom Lepola, Marlene Morales, Angela Cartechine, Janice Lewis, Courtney Dunlosky, Kathy Edenfeld, Gianna Glaros, Fanny Meaden, Brian Steadman, Andrew and Justin Almand, Bobbi Gibson, Becky Garrod, Jessica Garrod, Gilbert Deeter, Dean Blanton, Lou Rafferty, The Gilliam Family, Chester Rosenberger, Rachel Fowler, Tim Page, Andy Stefurak, Kathy Moser, The Family of Betty Kulyk (aunt of Patty Davis, upon her death), Dave Allen, Ricky Grove and Family (upon the death of his mother), Jesse Foes, Gary Young, Kay Santti, Dorothy Pollock, Joyce Weaver

Youth News



April has been a busy month as our youth continue to serve at the soup kitchen, help out with the garage sale, and meet for Bible study and fellowship on Sunday night. The total contributions collected for the 30 Hour Famine was nearly \$2000. Thanks again to all who participated and supported this worthwhile event.

On April 24 we again made our way back in history to take part in the Hale Farm and Village Underground Railroad program. We Methodists have a long history of opposing slavery, going all the way back to John Wesley, our founder. It was a great program, although a bit intimidating at times.

Our confirmation students completed class work which included a survey of the Bible, an introduction to Church history, and Methodism. We concluded our studies with a trip to the Synagogue located East of Wick Park in Youngstown. We gained an appreciation for the Hebrew Scriptures, the Hebrew language, and made some friends. Rabbi Muller of Rodef Sholom was a most gracious host explaining the symbolism in the stained glass, answering our questions, and allowing us to view the sacred scroll. We had a nice turn out of parents, mentors, and students.

On May 2nd we will celebrate Confirmation Sunday. The newest members of our church will be; **Taylor Craig, Michael Drew, Nick Krupa, Michael Manginelli, Shannon McClain, Tyler Messina, Nick Michael, Heather Noble, Drew Taylor, and Emelia Sherin.**

These fine young people served soup, helped in the nursery, and worked at the garage sale, just to mention a few of the ways they have put their faith into action. They have faithfully attended class, attended church and met with their mentors. It has been a sincere privilege to play a part in their spiritual development.

As a congregation we are indebted to the following members who have selflessly given so much of themselves as mentors to these young people. The mentors for the confirmation class of 2010 are **Steve and Beth Trace, Sue Spore, Cindy Baer, Harry Schoger, Bill Headland, Sally Allen, Andy McCracken, Jeff Rexroad, and Ed Monroe.**

Youth Sunday/Senior Recognition Sunday will be May 23rd. Steven Messina, Senior at Howland High School, will be giving the message that morning. Please notify the church office as soon as possible if you have a high school or college student who will be graduating this year so that we may recognize them that morning.

Vacation Bible School Supplies Needed

During May, our VBS team will be asking the congregation to donate supplies for this year's Vacation Bible School. However, there are several larger items that we need to help us decorate:

- A rowboat (you will get this back!)
- 6 feet of orange plastic fencing
- 2 heavy chains
- nets - soccer nets, fishing nets, any kind of nets

Contact Sue Spore (suespore@yahoo.com) if you can donate any of these items.

**Vacation Bible School
"High Seas Expedition:
Exploring the Mighty Love of God"
June 7-11, 2010 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.**

This year's Vacation Bible School will be an exciting adventure on the High Seas! And there is something for everyone:

Children ages preschool through 4th grade (completed) - join your crew in the sanctuary each evening for a fun skit and great music. Then, you'll travel to four different stations: Bible Voyage, Clipper Ship Crafts, Ship Rec Games, and Goodies from the Galley. Return to the sanctuary for Chadder Theatre and the Floating Finale. It's a lot of activity and a LOT of fun! (Are you playing T-ball or baseball during that week? That's OK - just come as many nights as you can!)

Youth ages 5th grade (completed) through high school - we need you to be crew leaders or station helpers. Crew leaders travel with a crew of approximately 6 children to each of the stations and help the station leaders as needed. Station helpers would assist the station leaders at one of our four stations.

Adults - you can be a crew leader, too! Help is also needed with decorating, registration, and clean-up. It's a great way to get to know our young people.

Registration forms will be mailed the last week of April, and will also be available at the church. Please contact Sue Spore (suespore@yahoo.com) if you'd like to be part of this adventure.

Graduation Sunday—May 23

We would like to honor all of our high school and college graduates during morning worship. Please notify the church office if you have a family member who is graduating, and complete the following form. We will share this information with the congregation.

Please return to the office by May 14th.

Graduate's Name

Parent (s) Names

Name of High School or College

Church and school activities while in high school or college; include college major.

Future Plans

UMCOR Health Kits Needed

The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) is asking for health kits to be used in the ongoing Haiti and Chile earthquake recovery efforts. These kits are distributed to those who have been forced to leave their homes as a result of recent disasters.

You can help by contributing basic necessities. All items must be NEW.

- * Hand towels (15" x 25" up to 17" x 27". No kitchen towels)
- * Washcloths
- * Combs (large and sturdy, not pocket-sized)
- * Nail files or fingernail clippers (no emery boards or toe clippers)
- * Bar soap, bath size (3oz and up)
- * Toothbrushes
- * Adhesive plastic strip sterile bandages
- * \$1.00 bills
- * One-gallon plastic bags

One of each of these items will be assembled into the one-gallon plastic bags. You may put together one or more kits containing the items, or you may contribute any of the individual items. Cash contributions will be used to help with shipping costs to our distribution center in Louisiana. Bring all items to the church office.

HUM members have already donated supplies for 10 full kits! It would be great if we could gather enough supplies for at least 15 more kits. I have some "extra" washcloths, nail files, soap, and toothbrushes just waiting to be put into their 1 gallon bag home! Contact **Dawn Zwetzig** with any questions. Thank you for your compassion and generosity to those in desperate need!

Acts of Kindness

There are no words to describe how full my heart is. I am filled with awe at the acts of kindness I witnessed during the Heavenly Trash Garage Sale at HUM. The church was not only overflowing with "junk", but also with love. The sale is such a wonderful ministry to the community, but it also ministers to HUM. We can only hope that the effect lasts through the year.

In the Narthex, there are pencils and coupons – quarter sheets of paper that you can write on.

If you do something nice for someone during the week; if you see someone do something nice for someone else, if someone does something nice for you; write it down and put it in the box or the church office.



Erik Harries (son of Kelly & Ed Harries)
 Hardin Valley Academy High School—Knoxville TN
Graduation Open House
Saturday, May 29 from 2:00-5:00 p.m.
 Howland United Methodist Church
 Church Family Invited!!



Appalachia Service Project
Eyes on the Prize:
Racing to Serve
June 20-26, 2010

Our teams are almost ready. We have 90% of our financing in place. We've filled out forms, designed our team t-shirts, and even had a Bible study that included a race around the outside of the church. Perry County, Kentucky - here we come!

The Appalachia Service Project is an organization dedicated to serving the people of Central Appalachia, making their homes warmer, safer, and drier. ASP Founder Tex Evans said, "We meet the people right where they are, just the way they are." And that's what we will do this summer. We are there to help the families improve their homes and in the process, we hope to be the hands and feet of Jesus, bringing love and hope into their lives. In the process, our eyes are opened and our lives are changed.

Please pray for this important mission. Financial contributions can be made at any time, just note "ASP" in the memo line of your check and drop it into the collection plate on Sunday.

"Oh, the sun shines bright on my old Kentucky home....."

**HUMC Financial Status
 Through March 31, 2010**

INCOME:

Church Receipts	\$ 52,995.88
Other Receipts	3,875.96
Total Church Receipts	\$ 56,871.84

EXPENSES:

Staff Salaries & Benefits	\$ 36,840.30
Programs	\$ 1,462.24
*Trustees Accounts	\$ 11,950.19
**Apportionments/Stewardship	\$ 3,964.52
Administration	\$ 2,555.48
Total Expenses Paid	\$ 56,772.73
Subtotal	\$99.11
Commitments not met	-\$7,443.89
Total Under-giving	-\$7,344.78

*Trustee Accounts include maintenance on the church and parsonage buildings and grounds, utilities, janitorial and lighting supplies, insurance, capital improvement, etc.

** Apportionments are our share of money paid to the East Ohio Conference and Mahoning Valley District. As of March 31, 2010 EOC Apportionments have not been paid for February and March. District Apportionments have not been paid for March. Our Capital Improvement Escrow has not been funded for January-March.

HUM Website

I'm not a contractor, but it seems to me that when a house is built, the foundation is laid first. Then the frame goes up, and finally the roof. Once the roof is up, work starts on the inside. At least that's how our condo was built.



So, what does building a house have to do with the church website? Well, the foundation is the home page. The frame is the menu. Currently there are 3 walls on this "house." By the time this article goes to print there may be more. The roof – I've got nothing for the roof. However, I am working on the insides now. My goal is to simplify the website but still include the necessary information. I also want to make it more eye-catching, so if you have any suggestions, please let me know.

In the meantime, God bless and see you in cyberspace and church.

Deborah Lowman

Kylee Headland in Germany

Kylee Headland, daughter of Bill and Cheryl Headland, and a student at the University of Cincinnati is currently in Germany doing a co-op in Biomedical Engineering. If you would like to keep in touch with Kylee while she is away, her blog is:

<http://ucinternationalonline.com/kheadland/>

Silent Auction November 14, 2010

HUM just finished another very successful Garage Sale. It was successful because of the ardent participation of so many members of this church.

In November the church is sponsoring another event. This time it is a **Silent Auction**. We are counting on the HUM church family to lend enthusiastic support to this project with its donations of goods, services or gift certificates. We have a talented and creative membership. We know you can think of some really innovative and fun ways to contribute to this event. It is not too early to start thinking about it. If you have any questions please feel free to call Eleanor Schoger or Lee Giesecke.

Book Bunch

Please join us for an inspirational discussion of *The Book Thief* by Markus Zusak on **Thursday, May 20, 2010**. Whether or not you've read the book, if you are interested in hearing it discussed, please join us. You do not have to be a member of Book Bunch or the Howland United Methodist Church. All are welcome.

Here is what the back cover has to say: "Set during World War II in Germany, Markus Zusak's groundbreaking new novel is the story of Liesel Meminger, a foster girl living outside of Munich. Liesel scratches out a meager existence for herself by stealing when she encounters something she can't resist—books. With the help of her accordion-playing foster father, she learns to read and shares her stolen books with her neighbors during bombing raids as well as with the Jewish man hidden in her basement before he is marched to Dachau. This is an unforgettable story about the ability of books to feed the soul."

Bert Morales has graciously offered her home for our discussion. Please contact Bert or the church office at 330-856-3463 for directions.

If you have any other questions or comments, please feel free to contact Deborah Lowman at dallowman@earthlink.net.

Why I Relay....

What follows is the letter that I sent to my family and friends. It seems appropriate that I share it with my church family as well.

Cancer - What would I say? What would you say? How would any of us respond should our little ones ask, "will it happen to me Grandma, or my Mommy or Daddy, or to you Grandma?" NOT a question I would really want to answer. Sadly I don't know the answer.

Each year as funds are donated to Relay for Life, we get just a bit closer to a cure. EVERY child, EVERY person wants to hear "a cure has been discovered".... That is the purpose of Relay for Life. Funds for Cancer research – funds for a cure.

Today (as I write this) it's the first day of spring. That time of new hope, new life on the ground, in the trees, blossoms in abundance, birds singing. How appropriate this would be the day I write my letter of request.

Our Relay team's theme this year is "SURVIVOR" – Out Think, Out Live, OUT CANCER!!!!!!

Let's give all those fighting this battle another birthday and then another. Let's fund research so our children and grandchildren do not have to be afraid of the "what if."

Brief letter, BIG request. Please help.

Sending my Love and wishing

God's Blessing for all of you,

Kathy Shirley





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Ronald C. Spore, pastor
Patty Davis, editor

Worship—9:30 a.m.
Sunday School—10:45 a.m.

Non-Profit Organization

Bulk Rate

U.S. Postage PAID

Vienna, OH

Permit No. 33

**Deadline for the
June 2010 newsletter:
Friday, May 14, 2010**

Return Service Requested



**Beginning at 6:00 p.m. Friday, May 7
Through 6:00 p.m. Saturday, May 8
Courthouse Square - Warren**

Relay for Life is coming soon to downtown Warren and our team is ready! Our theme this year is *SURVIVOR*. We won't be eating any weird food (I hope) but we will have to survive being in a tent for 24 hours and walking throughout the event!

There are many ways you can take part in Relay for Life.

Walk- if you can walk, we need you to sign up to walk sometime between 6:00 p.m. on Friday through 5:00 p.m. on Saturday.

Buy a luminary – if you would like to honor a survivor or remember a loved one who lost the battle to cancer, you can buy a luminary in honor/memory of them.

Put a loved one's name on the big screen – If you don't want to buy a luminary, you can put their name on the big screen that will be set up in Courthouse Park.

Survivors – There is a free dinner for you after you walk the opening lap at 6:00 p.m., provided by Outback Steakhouse. Meet us at our tent at 5:30 p.m. **Be sure you get your free t-shirt from Tammi!**

DONATE MONEY – We have not been able to do all the fundraisers we planned this year due to circumstances beyond our control, so if you would like to donate money, please send a check to the church office marked *HUM Relay for Life by May 4th*.

Come to Relay – Come see what it is all about and visit with the team in our tent anytime on Friday or Saturday!

All this information can be found on our bulletin board as well as the forms to be filled out to participate.