

THIS WEEK AT THE CREEK

June 11, 2009

God does not die on the day when we cease to believe in a personal deity, but we die on the day when our lives cease to be illuminated by the steady radiance renewed daily of a wonder, the source of which is beyond reason. --Dag Hammarskjöld in *Markings*

Dear Cross Creeker:

This Sunday evening at 5:00 p.m. we will gather for a duly called congregational meeting. As we like to say around here, when it comes to a congregational meeting, "Covenant members are expected. Everyone else is welcome!"

When a special meeting of the congregation is called, the items of business must be clearly stated. So here it goes...we have two items on the agenda for Sunday.

FIRST, the congregation will review and discuss the "potential use plan" (PUP) for our church property that has been developed by architect, Ken Brightman. Ken is the same architect that designed the renovation of our current facility. Ken will be present to present the PUP and answer any questions you may have. If you want to get a sneak peek, the drawings are posted on our webpage at www.crosscreekchurch.org.

This congregational meeting will be an important step in our **A WAY INTO THE FUTURE** plan that approved by the congregation in January of this year. We are "on track" with steps one and two of that plan, which state:

1. Hire Ken Brightman of Brightman and Mitchell to evaluate our current land and building and develop a "potential use plan" (PUP) as to what is realistically possible to maximize the use of our current holdings by indicating the approximate square footage of any potential new construction and the parking/green space required (completion by May of 2009). The Coordinating Council will work directly with Ken Brightman on this project. Cost: \$2,000.00 to come from Church's Memorial Fund.
2. Upon completion, the PUP is presented to the Congregation by the Coordinating Council for approval and/or other actions at a special called congregational meeting (May-June 2009).

At this meeting, the congregation will be asked to send the PUP on to the Washington Township staff and zoning officials for an *informal* review. We are seeking to include these officials early in our planning and dreaming process and to seek their "blessing." What we don't want to do is spend a lot of money on architectural drawings without a sense of what is possible and feasible on our 3-acre property!

In no way is the decision before the congregation this Sunday to approve final plans for a building or to even vote to build a new building. At this point in time we are only gathering information and seeking clarity on what is possible as we move into the future. Above all else, we are seeking to keep the congregation directly informed and "in the loop" as important information and findings become available.

SECOND, the congregation will be asked to affirm a covenant with **OHIO INTERFAITH POWER AND LIGHT (OhIPL)** as proposed by Justice and Witness Ministry's Eco-Justice Cross Creek Team (a.k.a. "The Green Team"). OhIPL is a group that mobilizes a religious response to climate change and promotes energy conservation, energy efficiency and renewable energy.

The proposed covenant is that "Cross Creek Community Church pledges to support the goals of Ohio Interfaith Power and Light, in part by engaging in an ongoing process of education with our members concerning energy production and usage in relation to climate change." More information about OhIPL is also available at www.crosscreekchurch.org.

A familiar proverb says, "Where there is no vision, the people perish." I'm glad we are making the effort to dream together. If we can dream together, we will be well positioned to find our way into the future.

Peace,

MIKE CASTLE, Pastor

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IN WORSHIP THIS WEEKEND

This weekend we will gather for worship as we settle in to that long, long season of green we call Ordinary Time. PASTOR MIKE will be offering a prompting entitled *"Power in the Small"* based on the gospel reading from Mark 4:26-34. KENNY ROADEN & EMILY McCANN will be singing a duet entitled *"After"*.

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For a complete listing of events, please go to www.crosscreekchurch.org.

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SUMMER JUSTICE ADVENTURES: THREE OFFERINGS BY OUR JUSTICE & WITNESS MINISTRY

Our Summer Justice Adventures are book study groups designed to expand your knowledge and awareness of issues of social concern and justice. Like last year, two of these studies are being promoted in conjunction with our partner church, College Hill Community Presbyterian Church. There are three options to choose from! And please note: It is okay to come to the first session without having done any reading yet!

BEYOND COLOR TEAM

Facilitators: Nancy Tepfer (Cross Creek) and Josephine Laury (College Hill)
Location: Home of Dan and Nancy Tepfer - 1879 Willowgreen Drive in Beavercreek
Dates: Tuesdays: June 16, July 21 and August 18 -- Time: 7:00 p.m.
For more information or to sign up contact: Nancy Tepfer at 426-8037 or dtepfer@ameritech.net
Book: *Dreams from my Father: A Story of Race and Inheritance* by Barack Obama

FEEDING FRIENDS TEAM

Facilitators: David Lauri (Cross Creek) and Vann Rogers (College Hill)
Location: Home of David Lauri - 531 Belmonte Park North, Apt. 1103 in Dayton
Dates: Tuesdays: June 23, July 21 and August 25 -- Time: 6:00 p.m.
For more information or to sign up contact: David Lauri at 902-5084 or david@davidlauri.com
Book: *Take this Bread: A Radical Conversion* by Sara Miles

"GREEN" TEAM

Facilitator: Kim Lockwood (Cross Creek)
Location: Cross Creek Church
Dates: Sundays: June 21, July 19 and August 23 -- Time: 9:30 a.m.
For more info or to sign up contact: Kim at 434-4789 or Kimberly.Lockwood@notes.udayton.edu
Book: *Reading Materials will be supplied by facilitator*

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LOOKING AHEAD...

VBS: CAMP E.D.G.E. -- July 20-23 6-8:30 pm

Excitement is in the air at Cross Creek as we get ready for CAMP E.D.G.E.: EXPERIENCE + DISCOVER GOD EVERYWHERE. This Vacation Bible School curriculum will help your children discover that God is with them at all times, in all places, and in all circumstances, ready to help them and guide them! Camp E.D.G.E. will be held at the church July 20 - 23 from 6:00 – 8:30 pm (Please arrive by 5:45 for registration on July 20th) Sign up your little camper today! Registration forms can be found in the church hallway or by calling the church office at 434-4580.

CHURCH WIDE PICNIC AND WORSHIP AT THE PARK

On August 2 we'll gather at Schoolhouse Park on Nutt Road at 11:00 AM for an outdoor worship service and then enjoy a potluck picnic afterwards. In addition to a dish to share, each person/family is asked to bring your own table service in order to be environmentally friendly! Drinks will be provided. There will be no 5:30 Saturday or 9:30 Sunday worship services at Cross Creek, only the 11:00 service at the park on this weekend!!!!