

THIS WEEK AT THE CREEK

September 3, 2009

“Many of [our] prayers are homely, making faith be as natural as breathing, so that we are encouraged to pray as who we are and not as if we were a prayer book, that God listens to us, God’s children, in our own peculiar idiom. And praying can be fun.”

– Archbishop Desmond Tutu, Cape Town, South Africa, winner of the 1984 Nobel Peace Prize

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IN WORSHIP THIS WEEKEND

This weekend we will gather for joyful and playful worship around the theme **OUT OF AFRICA**. The music will have a decidedly **AFRICAN BEAT** and led by **SHAUN AND ABIGAIL BENGSON**, who spent a good part of their summer in South Africa. **JONATHAN MCCLELLAND & MEGAN WEBER** will share their summer experiences in Tanzania; **MATT CHANEY** (along with written reflections from **MAGGIE SPRING**) and **BILL & BETTY YOUNGKIN** will share of their summer experiences in Kenya. Communion will be served at all weekend services. This service will be fun and informative and worshipful and a perfect compliment to a holiday weekend!

IN CONCERT THIS WEEKEND

And don't forget that on Saturday evening at 8:00 p.m., Shaun and Abigail will offer a special Saturday evening concert. No tickets required, but a free will offering will be taken.

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GOOD NEWS: THE PICTORIAL DIRECTORIES ARE IN!

If you had your picture taken for the church's pictorial directory, your long-awaited copy of the directory is now available. You can pick up your copy at the church office during the week or stop by the special events table before or after worship this weekend.

HOLY C.O.W. -- CELEBRATE OUR WELCOME WEEKEND - September 26-27, 2009

Cross Creek Community Church, United Church of Christ is pleased to announce that **JASON & deMARCO** will be in concert on Saturday, September 26 at 8:00 and **CANDACE CHELLEW-HODGE** will be conducting a workshop on her book **Bulletproof Faith: A Spiritual Survival Guide for Gay and Lesbian Christians** on Saturday, September 26 from 10:00 - 1:00 (including lunch). Costs for the Concert is \$20 per ticket and cost for the workshop is \$20 (includes lunch) per person, or a special package discount that can be purchased for \$30.00 which includes both the concert and the workshop. In addition, **JASON & deMARCO** and **CANDACE CHELLEW-HODGE** will be special guests in all three weekend worship services on September 26-27 at 5:30 p.m. Saturday and 9:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. on Sunday. All of this is part of Cross Creek Community Church's **HOLY C.O.W. (Celebrate Our Welcome) Weekend**. A brochure with complete details for the weekend, as well as a registration form to order tickets is available in the church lobby or online at www.crosscreekchurch.org.

NOTE: Childcare is available for WORKSHOP ONLY from 10:00 - 1:00 with advance reservation. To arrange childcare, please sign up at the Special Events table.

QUESTIONS ABOUT CROSS CREEK CHURCH?

Come to the Exploring Membership Class!

Those interested in investigating covenant membership at Cross Creek Community Church, as well as those interested in learning more about the church's statement of faith; its vision, mission and distinctive values; its decision making processes and its varied ministries, as well as its affiliation with the United Church of Christ and the Alliance of Baptists are invited to attend the Exploring Covenant Membership Class on **Saturday, October 10 from 9 AM to 2 PM**. You can sign up in the church hallway or contact Pastor Mike Castle to register. Childcare is available upon request with advance notice.

ON COMMON GROUND—IT'S ALL ABOUT LEARNING AND FELLOWSHIP!

8 weeks (Sept. 29 – Nov. 18)

On Common Ground, Cross Creek's adult education program, kicks off the fall session with a host of offerings! *On Common Ground* provides us the opportunity to come together in one place to learn and grow in our faith. Along with the core class, **Meeting Jesus Again for the First Time**, led by Pastor Mike on Wed at 6:00 - 7:15 PM & 7:30 - 8:45 PM, we have a host of new offerings including **Uppity Women of the Bible**, led by Sue Voisard, Director of Spiritual Formation, on Wed at 6:15 - 7:15 PM; **Spiritual Tools for the Journey**, led by Ruth Hopkins on Thurs at 6:15 - 7:30 PM; and **Move Into Life** led by Joyce Cameron on Oct. 15,22,29, Nov. 5,12,19 at 6:15-7:30 PM, that will engage our minds and feed our souls. Class descriptions are available in the church hallway and on the website!

Participation in the *On Common Ground* sessions not only provides opportunities to expand our knowledge about our faith, but also to connect with other Cross Creek folks in relaxed atmosphere of sharing and learning.

Classes begin the week of September 27th and childcare will be provided during the Wednesday evening sessions for children 3 and under for a nominal fee paid by parents.

Registration forms available in the church hallway or at

<http://www.crosscreekchurch.org/oncommonground>. Books can also be ordered through the links on the *On Common Ground* page.

Questions can be directed to Marianne Rinaldo (433-6498 or mcr11101@sbcglobal.net) or Sue Voisard (434-4580 or SVoisard@aol.com). We are looking forward to another great session of learning and fun—hope to see you!

CROSS CREEK FALL PARTY -- CHANGE OF DATE!!

Now it is Saturday, October 17 @ 4:00 PM

Mark and Patty Thompson are hosting our Cross Creeks Fall Party again at their home. Activities include pot luck dinner, hayrides, games, bonfire, singing, night hike, kids activities and much more. Sign up at the information table, bring a friend, your favorite dish to share and table service. Drinks will be provided. We will eat at 5:30 PM. There will be no Saturday night service at Cross Creek that evening.

SEPTEMBER PFLAG MEETING – SAFE SCHOOLS UPDATE

The September PFLAG Dayton meeting will be held at Cross Creek this **Tuesday, Sept 8th**, at 7:30 PM. For a chance to chat with PFLAG friends, come at 7:00 for the social time. The program will be a Safe Schools Update presented by Kim Peters, the PFLAG Safe Schools Chair, and Terry Riley from the Centerville School District. Learn about the Rainbow Reading Program, a new PFLAG Dayton Safe Schools project. This program is for anyone interested in schools as they relate to GLBT issues, but it would be especially pertinent for those with students in the Centerville School System.

BEYOND FOX & CNN -- MIDDLE EAST 101

The Centerville Washington Diversity Council invites you to a community forum on the historical and geographical elements of the Middle East turmoil and strife. How did we get here? What are the roots of the thinking and feeling of the different groups living in the Middle East? Come on Thursday, Sept 17 at 7 PM to get grounded in a better understanding of the news. It will be held at Miami Valley Unitarian Universalist Church, 8690 Yankee Street in Centerville.

CROSS CREEK CHOIR HAS BEGUN A NEW SEASON! --Wednesdays at 7 PM

Looking for a good way to re-energize your self through the middle of the week? Try what several Cross Creek folks have done to help get through a busy week: Sing in the Choir. The majority of the folks you see in choir are VERY busy people, just like you. But somehow choir just helps give you energy to get through the rest of your busy activities. It's not just for breakfast anymore.

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

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LOOKING AHEAD IN WORSHIP...

September 12-13 **AN ALTAR IN THE WORLD: A Geography of Faith**
The Practice of Getting Lost: Wilderness

September 19-20 **Guest Preacher: Rev. Roselin Runnels**

September 26-27 **HOLY C.O.W. WEEKEND**
Guest Preacher: Rev. Candace Chellew-Hodge
Guest Musicians: Jason and DeMarco

October 4 **WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY**
Guest Preacher: Rev. Barbara Battin
**No Saturday 5:30 Service due to scheduling conflict.*
**World Communion Sunday recognized at both Sunday services.*

October 10-11 **AN ALTAR IN THE WORLD: A Geography of Faith**
The Practice of Encountering Others: Community

October 17-18 **AN ALTAR IN THE WORLD: A Geography of Faith**
The Practice of Living with Purpose: Vocation