

# THIS WEEK AT THE CREEK

THE WEEKLY EMAIL NEWSLETTER OF CROSS CREEK COMMUNITY CHURCH, UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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## HAPPY NEW YEAR CROSS CREEK FAMILY!!

*To leave the story of Jesus in the manger, to pack it up as we have done with our crèche and put it away for another year, is to fail to understand what the Epiphany is all about.*

-- Peter Gomes, From Sermons, "Epiphany I"

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### IN WORSHIP THIS WEEKEND

\*\*\*There is NO SATURDAY Service this weekend!!!!

This Sunday at both 9:30 and 11:00 we will gather to celebrate **EPIPHANY**. Pastor Mike Castle will be offering a prompting called *Christian Rummage Sales*, which is Part I of a two part series called **A NEW DAWN**, which will reflect on how the Christian church is changing and why (all of which will be a summary of the pastor's learnings from the book *THE GREAT EMERGENCE* by Phyllis Tickle). Mark Kennedy will be singing. We will also be celebrating communion together.

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## EPIPHANY SEASON WORSHIP

### January 9-10 First Sunday after Epiphany (The Baptism of Jesus)

**A NEW DAWN** *The New Authority* Isaiah 43:1-7; Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

\*Affirmation of Baptismal Vows Rite

### January 16-17 Second Sunday after Epiphany

Guest Speaker: **Marsha Bonhart**, Anchor/Reporter WDTN-TV Channel 2

\*MLK Weekend and Cross Creek's BEYOND COLOR mission team focus.

\*\*Cross Creek Choir will be singing.

### January 23-24 Third Sunday after Epiphany

**CAN YOU HEAR ME NOW?**

*Your Mission, Should You Chose to Accept It* Luke 4:14-21

\*Cross Creek Drama Team to perform.

### January 30-31 Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

**CAN YOU HEAR ME NOW?**

*Prophets on the Edge* Luke 4:21-30, Jeremiah 1:4-10

Guest Preacher: The Rev. **Daryl Fairchild**, Community Organizer  
Greater Dayton IAF (Industrial Areas Foundation)

### February 6-7 Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

**CAN YOU HEAR ME NOW?**

*Into the Deep* Luke 5:1-11

\*Communion served at all weekend services.

### February 13-14 Last Sunday after Epiphany (Transfiguration)

**CAN YOU HEAR ME NOW?**

*Everyday Transfigurations* Luke 9:28-43

## **ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION!**

The Annual Meeting of the congregational will be held on Sunday, **January 24, 2009 from 5-7 PM**. Covenant members are expected and everyone else is welcome as we will, among other things, 1) Approve a 2010 budget, 2) Elect Officers and Council members for 2010, and 3) Hear an update on our *A Way into the Future* plan and affirm the formation of a new building committee and capital campaign committee.

## **MONTHLY PRAYER GROUP -- JANUARY 5**

Prayer Group meets the first Tuesday of the month from 6:15 PM to 7 PM at Alison Perkins's home. This is a drop-in group, so come when you can. Sorry no childcare is available, adults only, please. Further information or directions to her home are available at [prayergroup.cccc@gmail.com](mailto:prayergroup.cccc@gmail.com). Bring a friend!

## **OUR WHOLE LIVES**

***To offer sexuality education in a congregation is to acknowledge that human sexuality is simply too important, too beautiful and too potentially dangerous to be ignored in a religious community."***

Cross Creek will again be offering *Our Whole Lives* programming beginning in January for our children in grades K-1 and grades 4-5. *Our Whole Lives* is a series of faith-based sexuality education programs for six age groups. The resources were written by professional sexuality educators in conjunction with the United Church of Christ and provide accurate information to be used in the affirming and supportive setting of our churches.

If interested in this program, please sign-up (in the church hallway) for the **mandatory** parent/child orientation to be held on **Sunday, January 10th** from 12:30-2:30 pm. **Bring your brown bag or carry-in lunch.** Drinks and dessert will be provided. This meeting will give you vital information and answer all of your questions and at the conclusion you will be invited to register your child for the program. You must be present at the meeting or speak to Sue Voisard, program coordinator, prior to the meeting to register your child. *The elementary classes for Our Whole Lives will not be offered again until 2012.*

The 8-week session for children in grades K-1 and grades 4-5 will be held on Thursday evenings at the church from 6:00-7:00 PM from January 28th through March 25th (there will be no session on Thursday, February 18th). Each class will be led by Cross Creek members (one male and one female) who have been specially trained as facilitators for this program. For more information or to review the curriculum prior to the orientation, please contact Sue Voisard, Director of Spiritual Formation.

## **ON COMMON GROUND**

Mark your calendars **for** the winter session of *On Common Ground*, Cross Creek's adult education program! Classes **begin the week of January 27<sup>th</sup>** and run through the week of March 24<sup>th</sup> and will be offered on Wednesday evenings and Sunday mornings before the 11:00 service. Topics include: *Thinking about God in New Ways* and *The Bible According to...The Beatles...or Bruce Springsteen...or U2*. Childcare will be offered during the Wednesday night classes for a nominal fee paid by parents. Look for more information on class offerings and registration next weekend in the church hallway or by going to the church website and clicking on the On Common Ground tab on the left side of the screen. Contact Marianne Rinaldo with any questions (433-6498 or [mcr11101@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mcr11101@sbcglobal.net)).



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