

THIS WEEK AT THE CREEK

THE WEEKLY EMAIL NEWSLETTER OF CROSS CREEK COMMUNITY CHURCH, UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
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“Really hearing the word of God is a moving experience. Think of the times when you have been deeply moved by the love of a friend, the death of a parent, the innocence of a child, the playfulness of a pet, the insight of a writer, the story of a preacher, a reading from scripture, a view from a mountain, the flight of a butterfly. I believe that the word of God comes in many forms, if only we have eyes to see, ears to hear, and hands to feel.”

— Chris Glaser, *Reformation of the Heart: Seasonal Meditations by a Gay Christian*

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IN WORSHIP THIS WEEKEND

This weekend we will begin a new Epiphany theme we are calling **CAN YOU HEAR ME NOW?** The prompting in this series is **“Your Mission, Should You Choose to Accept It.”** Cinda Tyler will be singing.

In addition, we will again offer everyone the opportunity to give a special offering for the people of Haiti following the devastating earthquakes there. All monies collected will be sent through the United Church of Christ and will be distributed through *Church World Service*, a major, trusted disaster relief agency. Please mark your offering envelop or check as **HAITI RELIEF**. Last week, we collected an amazing **\$932.00** for this effort! **THANK YOU** for generous support and outpouring of compassion. During worship we will also be singing a moving and insightful new hymn written in response to the Haiti disaster called **“In Haiti, There is Anguish.”**

ALSO THIS WEEKEND!

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.

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CARRIE NEWCOMER CONCERT - Saturday, February 27

Get your tickets now! Carrie Newcomer will back at Cross Creek for a ticketed concert on Saturday, February 27th at 7:30 PM. Tickets are \$20 and available at the hallway table. She will also be the guest musician in our three weekend worship services on February 26-27. Be sure to let your friends and family know too!



QUESTIONS ABOUT CROSS CREEK CHURCH?



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, February 6 from 9 AM to 2 PM** You can sign up in the church hallway or contact Pastor Mike Castle. Childcare is available upon request with advance notice.

IN RECOGNITION OF EVOLUTION WEEKEND

On **Sunday, February 14** at 12:30 PM (following the 11:00 AM worship service), Pastor Mike will host a special event in recognition of Evolution Weekend. Tickets are \$5 for a lasagna and salad lunch, or you can brown bag it for no charge, but either way please sign up at the Special Events table. As part of this luncheon there will be a showing of the classic film ***Inherit the Wind*** which depicts the clash between science and religion in the Scope's Monkey Trial in Cleveland, Tennessee in the 1920's. With a **Creation Museum** just down the road, the issues this film addresses is as relevant today as it was then. Following the movie, Pastor Mike will offer some reflections on Evolution Weekend, along with a time for Q & A. Evolution Weekend was created five years ago by Michael Zimmerman, Professor of Biology at Butler University as an opportunity for serious discussion and reflection on the relationship between religion and science. One important goal is to elevate the quality of the discussion on this critical topic - to move beyond sound bites. A second critical goal is to demonstrate that religious people from many faiths and locations understand that evolution is sound science and poses no problems for their faith. For more information on Evolution Weekend go to www.evolutionweekend.org.

YOUTH COFFEE SERVICE RUNS SUNDAY MORNING

What do you think of naming our new coffee service '**Un-Common Grounds**'? The youth of Cross Creek continue to appreciate your patronage! Remember, the money we earn will defray the cost of sending youth and chaperones to St. Louis for a week next summer, where they will participate in a mission project. **We want to encourage you to bring your favorite travel mug to church** with you, and we will fill it with hot Dunkin Donuts coffee. Save the carpet, and get more coffee! Thanks from Cross Creek Youth!



THE GREAT ADVENTURE CHANGES COURSE

The Sunday morning children's education program is about to embark on an exciting journey of learning!! Beginning February 21st, our new children's program will kick-off a new program called "Power Xpress"! This program will bring Bible stories and theological foundations to life through rotational learning! Cooking, art, games, music and movement, science, videos, drama and storytelling will all be used to engage our young ones in their learning!! Can't you just feel the excitement!?

WE NEED YOUR HELP....

Our new children's program still has some physical and staffing needs!! We are in need of several more caretakers for our infants and children! These folks would nurture our little ones through play (no preparation needed!!) during one service every 3-4 weeks. Please consider helping with this vital ministry. We are also in need of the following donations for our new program:

an overhead projector

children's musical instruments

donations to help purchase a large rug and floor pillows for our renovated classroom

If you can help with staffing our infant and toddler room or with the needed donations, please see or e-mail Sue Voisard (svoisard@aol.com) or Liz Roaden (sunniedaze07@yahoo.com)

EPIPHANY SEASON WORSHIP

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)**

**Cross Creek Drama Team to perform.*

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

Cross Creek Community Church
"On Common Ground" Adult Education Program
Winter 2010 – 8 weeks (Jan 27 – March 24)

Please refer to the schedule below for class dates and times and descriptions
Come join us for fellowship, learning, and spiritual growth!

THINKING ABOUT GOD IN NEW WAYS (An On Common Ground Core Curriculum Class)

Wednesday evenings: January 27, February 3, 10, 24, March 3, 10, 17, 24

6:15-7:30 p.m. in the Parlor * Led by Mike Castle

CLASS DESCRIPTION:

This class will introduce participants to basic theological concepts and images of God. The class will also explore understandings of God's power and our responsibility to that power, evil and suffering, intimacy with God, the meaning of salvation and spirituality grounded in love and justice. We will also reflect on how other people "find God."

TEXT: *The God We Never Knew: Beyond Dogmatic Religion to a More Authentic Contemporary Faith*
\$10.00 (for a new copy of the book)

OPTIONAL TEXT:

How Can I Find God? The Famous and the Not-So-Famous Consider the Quintessential Question
\$10.00 (for a new copy of the book)

NOTE: *Books can be purchased now or on the first day of class by Pastor Mike or you can order your books from the Amazon.com link at www.crosscreekchurch.org.*

COUNTERING PHARAOH'S PRODUCTION-CONSUMPTION SOCIETY TODAY

Wednesday evenings: January 27, February 3, 10, 24, March 3, 10, 17, 24

6:15-7:30 p.m. in Room 103 * Led by Roselin Runnels

CLASS DESCRIPTION:

"It is a journey from slavery to covenant that we keep making over and over again.... because Pharaoh has immense power to draw us back into slavery." - Walter Brueggemann

Learn, share and explore through this Lenten study designed for progressive Christians. This DVD-based curriculum will include video segments featuring Walter Brueggemann, a renowned Old Testament scholar and retired professor from Columbia Theological Seminary. Walter Brueggemann is a United Church of Christ minister and hopefully will be joining Cross Creek soon for a weekend intensive!!

WARNING: THIS PROGRAM COULD BE HAZARDOUS TO SOCIETY AND THE AMERICAN WAY OF LIFE AND COULD POTENTIALLY HELP RESTORE THE MEANING OF COVENANT!!

TEXT: None

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO THE BEATLES

Sundays: Jan. 31, Feb. 7, 14, 21, March 7, 14, 21

9:30-10:30 am in the Parlor * Led by Ruth Hopkins

CLASS DESCRIPTION:

"All you need is love" sounds great, but will it preach? Yeah, yeah, yeah! Join us for a bit of pop music history, sprinkled with the spiritual themes of the Beatles. Topics will include: John - Working Class Hero?, George- Indian mystic, The Early Years, Drugs and God, and much more. Classes will involve light reading, listening to music, and discussion. No book required. Beatle wigs optional.

TEXT: None

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

*Childcare available for children from 6:15 -7:30 pm on Wednesdays in Room 101 for those participating in adult education sessions at that time led by: Liz Roaden, Children's Program coordinator. Childcare will be provided on site at a **shared nominal cost**

*In case of inclement weather, a decision about canceling class will be made by 3:00 pm on the day of the class. If you are unsure, you may call the church office at 434-4580 after 3:00 p.m. and the church voice mail greeting will indicate if classes have been cancelled or not.



Cross Creek Community Church
"On Common Ground" Registration Form

Registrant(s) Information

Name: _____
Last First M.I.

Address: _____
(optional) Street Address Apartment #

_____ City State ZIP Code

Home Phone: () _____ Alternate Phone: () _____

E-mail Address: _____

My choice of class(es) to attend:

- _____ Choice # 1: **Thinking About God in New Ways**
Led by: Mike Castle
Wednesdays 6:15-7:30 pm in the Parlor
- _____ Choice #2: **Countering Pharaoh's Production-Consumption Society Today**
Led by: Roselin Runnels
Wednesdays: 6:15-7:30 pm in Room 103
- _____ Choice #3: **The Gospel According to the Beatles**
Led by: Ruth Hopkins
Sundays: 9:30-10:30 am in the Parlor

***Please refer to the Class Descriptions on the reverse side of this sheet for further information.**

While I am involved in the Adult class(es) listed above, I will need childcare for my child(ren) listed below. I understand that there will be a shared nominal cost for this service, provided by Liz Roaden, our Children's Coordinator, in Room 101:

Child # 1: _____
Child's name Age

Child # 2: _____
Child's name Age



CROSS CREEK COMMUNITY CHURCH – UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
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