

THIS WEEK AT THE CREEK

THE WEEKLY EMAIL NEWSLETTER
CROSS CREEK COMMUNITY CHURCH, UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
March 19, 2010

If you get rid of unfair practices, quit blaming victims, quit gossiping about other people's sins, if you are generous with the hungry and start giving yourselves to the down-and-out, your lives will begin to glow in the darkness, your shadowed lives will be bathed in sunlight. I will always show you where to go. I'll give you a full life in the emptiest of places - firm muscles, strong bones. You'll be like a well-watered garden, a gurgling spring that never runs dry. You'll use the old rubble of past lives to build anew, rebuild the foundations from out of your past. You'll be known as those who can fix anything, restore old ruins, rebuild and renovate, make the community livable again.

-- Isaiah 58: 9b -12

IN WORSHIP *THIS WEEKEND*



The Lenten theme is **LIKE A WATERED GARDEN: LIVING INTO THE PROMISE OF LENT**. For this fifth weekend of Lent the **prompting**, entitled "**Bearing the Seed**," will be offered by **Pastor Mike Castle**.

Cinda Tyler will sing "**Seasons Change**." She will be accompanied by **guest pianist Zach Ruppel**.

Scriptures: Psalm 126; Isaiah 43:16-21; John 12:1-8

REMINDER: Easter Lily orders (\$10 per plant) are due by March 21st. These plants that will decorate the church on Easter weekend may be given in honor or memory of someone special to you. Please use your offering envelope, clearly designating the amount for lilies.

THANK OFFERING FOR TESS LITTLE: We are collecting a free-will love offering for Tess Little as a way of thanking her for sharing her art with us this season. You can give by marking your envelope "Tess Little Offering" or place your offering in the container in the hall. Gifts are tax deductible.

HOLY WEEK AT CROSS CREEK

- March 27-28 Palm Sunday** *Out of the Garden and Into the Streets*
Ps. 118:1-2, 19-29; Lk 19:28-40
- April 1 Maundy Thursday – 7:00 PM** *Agony in the Garden*
**Childcare provided for Children who are pre-Kindergarten.*
- April 2 Good Friday – 7:00 PM** *A Garden of Horrors*
**Childcare provided for Children who are pre-Kindergarten.*
- April 3-4 EASTER** *Now the Green Blade Rises*
**Cross Creek Choir Sings.*
*** Communion Served at all weekend worship services.*

Time is flying!! **The “UP!” SERVICE AUCTION** will be here soon!!

LIFT OFF IS SCHEDULED FOR **MAY 1**—Mark your Calendar!! ACT NOW!!

Deadline for donations: April 10!



Got a talent, service, or skill to donate? We need you!! Go to www.crosscreekchurch.org to fill out your donation form or register to attend!

Or stop by the display in the church hallway! Need help putting your idea together?

Contact Marcia Brawner 294-8379.

FOR YOUR REFLECTION THIS WEEK....

YOUR ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING OFFERING AT WORK

You may wonder what happens to the money you give through this annual special offering. Here are some examples of what great work is being done.....



In Belgrade, **Serbia**, Magdalena Tomic is a polite and quick student at Branko Pesic Primary School, where many of the students who attend are ethnic Roma and vulnerable to discrimination. With assistance from One Great Hour of Sharing and Church World Service, the parents of the children are starting micro-businesses and attending adult education courses to help them support their children's development.

After a disaster like the Indian Ocean tsunami, rebuilding one's life is no easy task. On the island of Nias, in **Indonesia**, Sonifati Nduru and Anima Daeli are raising pigs with support from One Great Hour of Sharing and Church World Service. This means protein for the family and a path to a new and sustainable livelihood.



CAN YOU HELP OUT....

CROSS CREEK USHERS AND GREETERS NEEDED

If you are interested in becoming an usher or greeter at Cross Creek, contact Richard Croskey at dickenns@woh.rr.com. We need dedicated people to join this part of the worship team. Come join us!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR MARCH OF DIMES MARCH FOR BABIES

Did you know that 1 in 8 babies is born prematurely? The March for Babies is the March of Dimes biggest fundraiser – raising almost \$300K in Dayton in 2009 – and volunteers are needed for the day of the event. Multiple times and opportunities are available to fit into your schedule. Groups are also encouraged to volunteer. Each volunteer will receive a free t-shirt, and most importantly, will be doing real work to end prematurity in our area and throughout Ohio.

The March will be held **Saturday, April 24, 2010** at Carillon Park. Volunteers are needed from 6 AM until noon. Shifts generally last 2 hours, and assignments vary (running game booths for kids, set up, tear down, parking, crossing guards, Taste of Walk booths, etc.) For more information or to hear the Hammes family prematurity tale, please contact Nikki Hammes at harter.hammes@gmail.com or 937-307-0248.

UPCOMING EVENTS

REMEMBER: Everyone is encouraged to check out Cross Creek's complete events calendar online at www.crosscreekchurch.org.

EASTER EGGS-STRAVAGANZA 2010 -- Saturday, April 3

Cross Creek's annual Eggs-stravaganza, for infants through second grade children and their families will take place Saturday, April 3, from **10:30 AM to Noon**. Tickets are \$3.00 and friends are welcome. There will be an Easter egg hunt with prizes and entertainment by Jonathan Heart "The Origami Wizard". Tickets on sale now at the events table. Get yours today!

IT'S WORK-SHIP TIME AGAIN The Cross Creek congregation continues our Easter celebration with Work-ship services the weekend of **April 10-11**. We will gather at tables and together prepare grooming kits for the families who come to our Feeding Friends food pantry. Because we are doing grooming kits again, many of the supplies will be the same as for our last Work-ship for ARC Ohio, and we will again be filling one gallon zip-lock baggies. All the needed items are available at "dollar" stores. Check out the display in the hall, and take the **ATTACHED FLYER** with you as a shopping reminder.

MORE IAF LISTENING SESSIONS

So many times we take a look around our communities and think, "I would really like to change _____." The Cross Creek Industrialized Areas Foundation (IAF) team would like to invite you to come to one of our upcoming listening sessions to discuss the Greater Dayton region, its challenges, and possible solutions. Listening sessions are a great way to get to build relationships with your fellow church members, and provide valuable feedback for this grassroots organization.

Sessions will last about one hour, and are limited to 10 participants. Sign up sheets are located at the Events Table. For more information, talk to one of the Cross Creek IAF team members, or contact Bill Youngkin at wyoungkin@woh.rr.com or (937)-223-8474.

Upcoming Sessions:

- Sunday, March 21, @ 12:30 PM led by Lynne Wise and Brad Jones at Cross Creek
(child care & lunch snacks provided)
- Monday, March 29, @ 7:00 PM led by Nikki Hammes and Bill Youngkin at Cross Creek

QUARTERLY JUSTICE & WITNESS MEETING

The Justice & Witness Ministry will meet on **Monday, March 29th**, from 7:00 - 8:30 PM, at Cross Creek. We'll make decisions about first quarter Local Mission Giving, get update on our teams' activities and make final plans for the Good Friday Walk for Justice and Peace. Whether you're a regular participant on a Justice and Witness team, interested in finding opportunities to work with us for justice, or just curious about what we're up to, you're welcome to attend!

DREAMING OF SUN AND FUN-FILLED SUMMER DAYS....

You'll notice that the **2010 summer camp** inserts are in the bulletin this weekend. The Ohio Conference of the United Church of Christ offers an amazing selection of summer camps for both adults and kids at our two beautiful outdoor ministry facilities in Ohio! Consider all of the different experiences and opportunities for this summer!! For more information, see the detailed pamphlets in the church hallway. You can register online at www.ocucc.org or call them direct at 1-800-282-0740. Members of our church family (talk to Sue Voisard or Haley and Brice Donegia!) have experienced these camps firsthand and found them to be wonderful, safe, well-organized and inspirational! Check them out for yourself!

IN THE COMMUNITY

CENTERVILLE WASHINGTON DIVERSITY COUNCIL PRESENTS.....

CHALLENGES TO PEACE AND PROSPERITY: IRAN -- Forum on **March 25, 7-8:30 PM**

Our guest speaker, Melody Moezzi, grew up mostly in Dayton, Ohio (graduated from Centerville High School) amid a strong and vibrant Iranian-American Diaspora. She is a writer, speaker, activist, author and attorney. Her first book, *War on Error: Real Stories of American Muslims*, earned her a Georgia Author of the Year Award and a Gustavus Myers Center for Bigotry and Human Rights Honorable Mention. Moezzi is a commentator for National Public Radio's All Things Considered and for Georgia Public Broadcasting's Georgia Gazette. At this Forum, Moezzi will relate general background information about Iran and about their culture. She will also relate her experiences growing up here as an Arab-American. The forum will be held at Miami Valley Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 8690 Yankee Street, Centerville

CHALLENGES TO PEACE AND PROSPERITY: AFGHANISTAN -- Forum on **April 22, 7-8:30 PM**

Our guest speaker, Jaro Bilocerkowycz, is an author and professor of political science specializing in national security and global politics at The University of Dayton. He has written numerous articles for the World Book Encyclopedia and is author of the book *Soviet Ukrainian Dissent*. He covers Afghanistan in courses on international relations, global politics, nationalism and ethno politics, and US national security. The forum will be held at Miami Valley Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 8690 Yankee Street, Centerville.

Easter Season Work-ship

April 10-11

Grooming Kits for Feeding Friends Families

At our worship services the weekend of April 10th and 11th, we will gather at tables to assemble grooming kits for the families who come to our Cross Creek Feeding Friends food pantry. Each kit, a one-gallon zip-lock baggie, will include 1 bottle of shampoo, 1 package of cotton swabs, 1 tube of toothpaste, 1 deodorant, 2 razors, 2 toothbrushes, and 2 bars of soap. All items are available at various dollar stores.

PLEASE BRING SUPPLIES TO CHURCH NO LATER THAN APRIL 4 SO WE CAN MAKE SURE WE HAVE ALL WE NEED OF EACH ITEM



Any brand of shampoo
Gender neutral, please since it will may be used by both males and females
(Make sure it isn't too big to fit in a baggie)



Any size package as long as it will fit in a baggie with all the other items



Any brand of stick deodorant. Gender neutral, please since it might be used by a male or a female



We need lots of toothbrushes. There will be 2 in each kit, but we will provide a basket of extras so they can have one for each family member



Buy multi-packs of soap, and we will divide them up to put 2 bars in each kit



Buy multi-packs of razors, and we will divide them up to put 2 bars in each kit



Any brand of toothpaste

TAKE THIS FLYER WITH YOU TO THE STORE