

THIS WEEK AT THE CREEK

THE WEEKLY EMAIL NEWSLETTER
CROSS CREEK COMMUNITY CHURCH, UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
APRIL 2, 2010



daring daffodil
bright yellow beauty
breaking through icy crust of March's last storm,
blooming in cold rain on a grey grim April day,
almost defiantly
bringing color back to the garden;
daring daffodil
diligently offering delight
on a day when the news is not good
in Kabul, Afghanistan,
in Port-au-Prince, Haiti,
in Dayton, OH, USA,
not even in Jerusalem, the "city of peace;"
daring daffodil
remind us
that resurrection
is God's purpose, God's promise,
the pattern of God's creation...
that we must hear, lament, and mourn the
bad news
but not go down into despair...

that we must share the good news
of life that emerges
from frigid, fallow days of winter
from war ravaged ruins of body and soul
from inexplicable suffering local and global.
daring defiant diligent delightful daffodil...
encourage us to be an Easter blessing for the world.

-- Rev. Dr. Barbara Battin

IN WORSHIP *THIS EASTER WEEKEND*

The prompting, "**NOW THE GREEN BLADE RISES: Being an Easter People in a Good Friday World**" will be offered by Pastor Mike Castle. Special Music by the Cross Creek Choir will be "Season of Promise" by Mark Hayes. Communion will be served at all services.

Scripture: Luke 24:1-12

COMMUNITY PRAYERS

Please pray for....

- **Ann Mourouzis** as she recovers from hip replacement surgery on March 30 at Kettering Medical Center.
- **Bev Grzymala** as she recovers from the removal of a portion of her liver due to her colon cancer spreading to her liver at the James Cancer Hospital at OSU on March 31.
- **Maggie Bauer** as she faces surgery at the James Cancer Hospital at OSU to remove a spot on her lung on April 7.
- Prayers of joy are offered for **Dr. Betty Youngkin** as she celebrates her retirement from the University of Dayton.

EASTER IN THE COMMUNITY

EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE at Carillon Historical Park on **Sunday, April 4, 2010 at 6:30 AM.** It's sponsored by Greater Dayton Christian Connections and Dayton History. The preacher will be Rev. Diane Turner-Sharazz, Pastor of McKinley UMC and Director of Course of Study School, a joint program of Methodist Theological School in Ohio and United Theological Seminary. Music Leader: Lee Behnken, Music Evangelist. Worship Leadership provided by the Community Initiative to Reduce Gun Violence, Dr. Robert Walker, Executive Director of the Wesley Community Center.

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

SONGFEST 2010: A Musical Celebration for the Season of Easter Saturday April 17th 5:30 PM (A Time of Fellowship will follow the service)

In lieu of our normal Saturday evening worship, we will gather for a fun-filled evening of singing. The Cross Creek Choir will be singing some of their "GREATEST HITS" along with others of our other talented Cross Creek folk who will entertain you. Best of all.....you get to sing, too. We will be introducing some selections from the new UCC "Sing, Prayer, and Praise" songbook that was introduced at the national synod event last summer. For those of you who remember the old time "singspirations", you will have the opportunity to call out selections from the New Century hymnal of those hymns that you love so much. Afterward, there will be a time of fellowship with refreshments provided! So be sure to mark your calendar, and join us for an evening of music.

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.

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!

CHRISTIAN PRESERVATION PROJECT - SONKA

Christian History Preservation: Rediscovering and Learning from the Ohio Story, scheduled for **Saturday, April 17**, at the Pleasant Hill UCC here in our SONKA area. This gathering will celebrate the unique heritage of churches that emerged from the Christian denomination. The event, which will feature church historian Barbara Brown Zikmund and a large cast of (costumed) characters from the history of the Christian Church, will start at 9:30 AM to 3 PM. The leaders of the Christian movement in the early 19th Century trusted each other and valued character rather than doctrine. They were very ecumenical. The tolerated diversity and welcomed almost everybody. For more information, email preservation@pleasanthillucc.org or call the Pleasant Hill UCC office at 937/676-3193. Cross Creek UCC has paid a group registration fee so there is no cost to you to attend.

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST HAS GREAT PLANS ON FRIDAY, APRIL 16

At 9 AM the UCC Stillspeaking Ministry will launch a NEW powerful video spot on the internet. At first, the video message will be delivered to tens of thousands -- by email, through internet ads, and posts of social networks. Then, as the day unfolds, "God is Still Speaking" will sweep the internet like a mighty wave -- reaching millions. **But only with your help.**

Here's what you need to know....

STEP ONE: 9:00 AM

Visit ucc.org and check your email for a special message offering a first peek at Stillspeaking's new, edgy internet spot. Watch it. Let it sink in.

STEP TWO: 9:02 AM

Share the link on Facebook, Twitter, MySpace, LinkedIn, myUCC, your own blog, or other places where internet dwellers will see it.

STEP THREE: 9:05 AM

Send the link by email to family, friends, co-workers and church members, inviting them to watch and share with others.

STEP FOUR: 4:30 PM

Just for kicks, repeat steps two and three.

STEP FIVE: 10:00 PM

Relax, knowing that, thanks to you and countless others, millions have received a counterculture message about a Stillspeaking God -- a word of inclusion, justice and welcome.

CAN YOU HELP OUT....

MOVING THIS SATURDAY MORNING...

Tracy Manning and Lenoir Rice need volunteer assistance in loading their U-haul on Saturday Morning. We are only looking at a couple of hours from 9:30 to no later than noon. Any time or assistance would be greatly appreciated. Please let Lenoir know if you can help at 937-470-3198.

DO YOU LIKE TO PLAY GAMES???!?!?

If so, we have the perfect ministry opportunity for you!! Our new children's curriculum needs someone who can lead games with our Cross Creek kids just two weekends out of every 3 1/2 months!! All ideas are provided for you!! Please consider joining this exciting new ministry team! Please see Liz Roaden or Sue Voisard to volunteer or for more information!



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.

IN THE COMMUNITY

DOMESTIC PARTNERSHIP PANEL DISCUSSION -- Thursday, April 22, 2010 at 7 PM

The City of Kettering Board of Community Relations is sponsoring a panel to deal with the legally confusing and complex issues of Domestic Partnerships. Ohio state and Federal law(s) outline specific rights given and *not* given to individuals in a domestic partnership. Topics include:

- Estate planning, inheritance laws, medical rights
- Rental and fair housing information
- Important financial planning and resources
- Programs and services available to the Greater Dayton LGBT community

It will be held at Van Buren Middle School Auditorium, 3775 Shroyer Road, Kettering, OH 45429. After a brief presentation and a Q&A session, participants will have the opportunity for one-on-one conversation with workshop panelists. One of the panel members will be prominent Dayton attorney Karl Ulrich, who is a founding member of Nexus UCC. Questions? Contact Laura Arber, Laura.Arber@gmail.com or 329-0113.

CENTERVILLE WASHINGTON DIVERSITY COUNCIL PRESENTS.....

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.