



# Asbury Messenger November 2011



*Enter God's Gates with Thanksgiving*

*Worship in November*

**November 6**

**All Saints Sunday**

Scripture: Isaiah 25:6-9

Sermon: "Will There Be Eating in Heaven?"

We will celebrate communion as we give thanks for the "communion of saints." Names of members who have died since last All Saints Day will be read.

**November 13**

**Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost**

Scripture: Matthew 25:14-30

The sermon will focus upon the parable of the talents, which continues to challenge Jesus' followers.

**November 20**

**Thanksgiving Sunday**

Scripture: Psalm 100

Sermon: "Defiant Joy"

**November 27**

**First Sunday of Advent**

Scripture: Isaiah 64:1-9, Mark 13:24-37



***Chastened but Inspired***  
***By Philip Wilden***



On October 17, Asbury was visited by David and Lorene Persons, who serve at the Mulungwishi Methodist Mission, Katanga Province, Democratic Republic of the Congo. This event was arranged by Julia Foster, whose United Methodist Women's circle (Priscilla Circle) has been corresponding with and supporting the Persons for a number of years.

David Persons is the dean of the Seminary in Mulungwishi, and Lorene, a nurse, is director of the Women's School attached to the Seminary. Both of them are children of missionaries. Lorene's father founded the seminary in 1951. It was the first university level seminary for the United Methodist Church in French-speaking Africa.

The Mulungwishi mission includes educational institutions from preschool to seminary, a church, a clinic, a nutrition program, and agricultural programs.

About a dozen Asbury members were present for David and Lorene's presentation. We were joined by our former seminary intern, Kim Wisecup, who met the Persons during her cross-cultural trip to the Congo this May.

I have read about the growth of the Methodist Church in Africa, but somehow I didn't seem to grasp it until I met the Persons. In 1951 the Katanga Province had one annual conference and 20,000 members. Today there are six annual conferences with over 400,000 members.

In the Congo, the church provides a sense of identity and purpose that I rarely see in the U.S. Here we are so accustomed to seeing the church as just another commodity. We shop around for the best deal. Here everyone is so busy that the church has to "compete" with all the other activities to which people are giving their time, often coming in third or fourth or fifth on the list. In the church in the Congo, women, men, and youth are eager to become involved. The United Methodist Women meet twice a week!

As one who receives a regular paycheck and lives in a nice house provided by the church, I was chastened by the modest support that African pastors receive. Many receive less than \$10 per month as salary. I was sad to hear of people who have a calling to preach but who cannot afford the education. And it was heart-breaking to learn about mothers who struggle to have sufficient nutrition for their children. In America, even the poor are obese.

But probably the most eye-opening realization was the joy which the Congolese Methodists radiate. Difficult and often life-threatening circumstances do not seem to prevent them from expressing "the joy in the Lord."

What a contrast to the typical American, who seems to be mad about something all the time. Mad because their taxes are too high. Mad because Ohio State's football team isn't winning every game. Mad because the driver in front of them hesitated a moment at the light. The typical American has made a career of being angry about things that to someone in a developing nation, aren't even an issue.

So I was chastened, but I was also inspired. It is inspiring to see people hungry for the gospel, and it is inspiring to see people serve faithfully and give generously, in spite of adversity. I wish everyone could have heard David and Lorene share about the ministry that is happening there.

The apostle Paul never asked for money for himself, but he did not hesitate to ask his congregations to give money for others. In that spirit, I would like to raise a goal for our church. I'd like to see us provide a \$3,000 scholarship to the seminary at Mulungwishi. In fact, I'd like it to become an annual gift. This money provides comprehensive support for a student, a spouse, and their children to be educated, plus housing, medical, and food allotment. Where else can you get that kind of a return for \$3,000?

Let us be in prayer about ways we can make that dream a reality. To learn more about the mission, you can visit <http://umccongo.blogspot.com>. There you will find photographs of the Persons and the mission and discover so much more than I've been able to share in a brief article.

**First Thursday Series welcomes Weldon Adams to our Klais.  
By Sally Casto**



Joe Musser inaugurated our 2011-2012 series in October, and now we look forward to welcoming Mr. Weldon Adams for the November 3 program. I've known Weldon for years as a colleague in the Columbus chapter of the American Guild of Organists. His delightful wit and charm can be heard in his playing and his speaking, and I look forward to introducing him to you. Recently retired from serving 42 years as Director/Minister of Music at Covenant Presbyterian Church in Upper Arlington, Weldon now serves as Co-Organist at North Community Lutheran Church in Columbus.

Looking ahead to December, I will be playing Advent and Christmas selections for the December 1 program.

**Bell Festival  
November 20, 2011  
7:00 p.m.  
Gray Chapel - OWU**



Participation from many bell choirs including our Asbury bell choir under the direction of Carol Brulotte.

## Giving Thanks

By Dave Hejmanowski, Lay Leader



I've written in this space before about my childhood memories of Christmas Eves spent with my mother's gigantic extended Italian family at the home of my great-grandmother. That overwhelming assault on the senses, an onslaught of food, family and festivity stood in stark contrast with my family's Thanksgiving celebrations.

Ironically, although my mother's extended family was huge, her nuclear family was smaller than my dad's. My mother had only one brother, whereas my father was one of four. But whether it was a quirk of their families or a basic distinction between the Polish and Italian traditions, my father's extended family didn't gather all together as my mother's did.

Gatherings with my father's family tended to be very small. His eldest brother lived about a half hour away from us and we saw my uncle, aunt and two cousins often. His sister lived in North Carolina at the time and so was rarely at family gatherings. His younger brother died when I was very young. So it was that while Christmas was a huge affair with my mother's family, Thanksgiving was a small affair with my father's.

That's not to say that it wasn't interesting- both in the entertainment and in the cuisine. Christmas was all Italian from the cookies to the main courses to the cannolis. Grandma would make pigs in a blanket and pierogi. My mother would make raviolis in sauce and her mother, who would join us most years, would bring home-made cookies. I was one ethnically confused kid.

My uncle (who once convinced a neighbor girl that he was my father's son) and my paternal grandmother would provide the entertainment. Grandma was a loving mother and a doting grandmother, but she was quite the character. She watched wrestling on TV. She drank beer, but only from glass bottles. She went to bingo but never told my grandfather if she won. Mostly, she loved to play cards. Crazy eights was her game of choice, and she cheated with reckless abandon. At the end of games, we'd find cards tucked under the table and lying on the floor.

As I got older, I began to notice more. After a while, I noticed that Grandma didn't cheat to win. Often, she cheated to try and help me win. Often, those bingo winnings would end up in my pocket and in my brother's. Often, those pierogi got made just the way that I liked them.

Grandma H. fell ill when I was 11 years old. My father and my uncle agreed that they would take turns stopping at her house after work to check on her. She would set out some vegetables or crackers when it was my uncle's turn. One day, my father had an emergency at work and asked my uncle to go in his place. Grandma opened the door, saw who it was, and slammed the door again. When he finally got her to let him in, my uncle found a full dinner set out on the table. Inquiring why there was a whole meal there, she calmly told him that she thought my father was coming and she always cooked for him.

My uncle had always kidded my father that he was her favorite son and that sealed the deal. A few months later, just before Thanksgiving, Grandma took a turn for the worse and went to stay with my uncle. In the middle of the night he called and told my father that he better hurry to the hospital before it was too late. When Dad got there Grandma was unconscious, but he took her hand and said, "It's ok, Mom, your favorite son is here now." She squeezed his hand, and the end came shortly thereafter.

Every Christmas I make cookies to remember my mother's mother. Every Thanksgiving I think of those pierogi and those games of crazy eights. And I think of that hand squeeze and I'm reminded that while my grandparents are all gone, the memories of them will never leave me, and that, by itself, gives me more than enough to be thankful for.

### **Asbury's Limited Family & Friends**



#### **Sarah Moore Home 26 N. Union St. Delaware, Oh. 43015**

Bob & Shirley May

Bob Fair

Bert Teeter

Rose Weiser

#### **Willow Brook Christian Village 100 Willow Brook Way S.**

Charlotte Gallant (#118)

Kay Schlichting (#116)

Therese Smith

Bernie Baker 61 Willow Brook Way S.

Ally Morrow 151 Willow Brook Way S.

#### **Willow Brook at Delaware Run**

Ed Schwab 64 Delaware Crossing East.

#### **Delaware Court 4 New Market Dr.**

Arlene McDowell

Pat McLead

#### **At Home**

Ellis & Janet Gallant

74 Orchard Heights

Delaware, Ohio. 43015

#### **Out of area**

Branson Spring

Mayfair Village


3011 Hayden Rd.





Columbus, Ohio. 43235

Howard Blanchard

160 Cider Mill Rd.

Glastonbury, CT. 06033

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wedn
<p><b>Sunday School 9:30a</b> <b>Worship 10:45 a</b></p> <p><b>November Trustee:</b> <b>Lew Fikes</b></p>		<p><b>1</b> Care Network 10a Worship Comm. Mtg. 7p Scout Comm. Mtg. 7p</p>	<p><b>2-UMW board</b> Day Out Club 1 Alleluia &amp; Junic MAP Youth 5:1 Teen Choir 5:4 Bell Choir 6p // Journey Youth Social Media M Trustees Mtg. 8</p>
<p><b>6</b> Willow Brook Service 2p UMW Soup lunch &amp; Bake sale 12p</p>	<p><b>7</b> Boy Scouts 7p</p> 	<p><b>8</b></p>	<p><b>9-Day Out Club</b> Alleluia &amp; Junic MAP Youth 5:1 Teen Choir 5:4 Bell Choir 6p // Journey Youth</p>
<p><b>13</b> Stewardship &amp; Spirituality 9a New Member Class 9:30a BP Screening 12p Noisy Coin Collection Weavings 7p EYG 7p</p>	<p><b>14</b> Boy Scouts 7p</p> 	<p><b>15</b> General Health Dist. 11:30a Alzheimers Support Care Group 1p Ad Council 7p</p>	<p><b>16-Day Out Cl</b> Alleluia &amp; Junic MAP Youth 5:1 Teen Choir 5:4 Bell Choir 6p // Journey Youth</p>
<p><b>20</b> New Member Class 9:30a EYG 7p</p>	<p><b>21</b> Boy Scouts 7p</p> 	<p><b>22</b></p>	<p><b>23-Day Out Cl</b> Alleluia &amp; Junic MAP Youth 5:1 Teen Choir 5:4 Bell Choir 6p // Journey Youth</p>
<p><b>27</b> New Member Class 9:30a EYG 7p Messenger deadline <b>Family Promise</b></p>	<p><b>28</b> Boy Scouts 7p</p>  <p><b>Family Promise</b></p>	<p><b>29</b></p> <p><b>Family Promise</b></p>	<p><b>30-Family Pro</b> Day Out Club 1 Alleluia &amp; Junic MAP Youth 5:1 Teen Choir 5:4 Bell Choir 6p // Journey Youth</p>

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
ard Mtg. 10a lub 10a lunior Choir 4:15p 1 5:15p 2 5:45p 3p /Adult Choir 7p outh 7p lia Mtg. 7p ltg. 8p	<b>3</b> Noontime Recital 12:15p Mission & Outreach 7p	<b>4</b> Prayer Group 8a 	<b>5</b>
Club 10a lunior Choir 4:15p 1 5:15p 2 5:45p 3p /Adult Choir 7p outh 7p	<b>10</b> DCP Mtg. 6:30p Northwest Neighborhood Association Mtg. 7p Finance Comm. Mtg. 7p	<b>11</b> Prayer Group 	<b>12</b>
t Club 10a lunior Choir 4:15p 1 5:15p 2 5:45p 3p /Adult Choir 7p outh 7p	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> Prayer Group 8a Agency Conf. Group 12p 	<b>19</b> Boy Scout Pizza Party 12p
t Club 10a lunior Choir 4:15p 1 5:15p 2 5:45p 3p /Adult Choir 7p outh 7p	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> Shower 12p
<b>Promise</b> lub 10a lunior Choir 4:15p 1 5:15p 2 5:45p 3p /Adult Choir 7p outh 7p	<b>1</b> Messenger Mailing 9a  <b>Family Promise</b>	<b>2</b> Prayer Group 8a  <b>Family Promise</b>	<b>3</b>  <b>Family Promise</b>

## Picture Perfect Person To Promote Our Pictorial Pages By Bill McCartney



Although she's probably embarrassed at the label, I think it's right to say that Cherie Kowalski has been the perfect person to coordinate the production of our church's pictorial directory. She brings significant talents to this intensive five month task that she's accepted on behalf of all of us. And that task is important to the vitality, efficiency, and community spirit of our Asbury family.

She started on the project in late July and will continue through December - making sure all the pictures are taken, all the photos properly catalogued, all of the activity pages are designed, and all the directories distributed to the members. She's already working on the promotional brochures for Asbury which are a part of Olan Mills' gift to the church. As is true of others who serve us well, we owe Cherie a debt of gratitude.

Modestly, Cherie gives much credit to others on the "team." She's especially grateful to her husband Chad, whose marketing skills have helped her immensely. She also thanks Brenda Lindeboom for the ways she's facilitated the work. And certainly she thanks the numerous volunteers on the program.

Doing tasks well is second nature to Cherie. She was raised in Reynoldsburg. After some college classes, she went to work as a secretary for J.P. Morgan Chase. By the time she left 13 years later she was an Assistant Vice President for Print Sales. By the way, she met Chad at J.P. Morgan Chase where he is an Assistant Vice President for Marketing.

Cherie was raised in a Pentecostal Church and Chad was raised in a United Methodist Church. They married in 2003 and moved to Delaware about 5 years ago. It was not long before they found Asbury -- and we're glad.

With the birth of Sienna 5 years ago, Cherie became a stay at home mom. However, she's found plenty to keep her busy. In addition to directing the pictorial directory project, she's active in (and loves being in) the Lydia Circle of the United Methodist Women. In the community she works for the Delaware City Schools in various positions. In addition, she takes care of children in her home.

She and the family also find time for fun. Their special interest is travel and tent camping. Cherie also loves cooking, gardening and bird watching. Chad's personal joy is football, especially cheering for the Jacksonville Jaguars.

What was most impressive about interviewing Cherie for this column was her genuine graciousness and her energetic enthusiasm for her work on the church directory - and for anything she does. That kind of spirit certainly can be called "picture perfect."

## **UMW News**

### **By Mona Ray**



November 6, after church is the United Methodist Women's Soup Lunch and Bake Sale. Plan to attend. There will be at least two kinds of soup and hotdogs. Then you may buy your dessert. You may want to take it home or share it there. This is one of the UMW's major fundraisers for mission during the year. The youth have been wonderful helpers each year. So look for them to be involved also. Many of you will be volunteering to bring baked goods or supplies. We thank the entire church for the support you give. This is an opportunity to become better acquainted with your fellow church members.

### **Mission Moment**

Southside Community Center is called an umbrella for the people in San Marcos, Texas. The United Methodist Women founded the center in 1972. It provides temporary shelter for the homeless, food for the hungry, quick financial assistance for those who can't pay a utility bill, a place for youth to gather, and inexpensive homes for the elderly. It even goes to court to help youth in trouble and set them on a better path. Patsy Butler, 63, once stayed at Southside Community Center's homeless shelter. Now she is on her feet and driving a van to bring homeless people to Southside's meals program. This is our mission money at work. That is why we have soup lunches and chocolate fares.

### **Mission & Outreach News**

#### **By Vicki Lefevre**



The Mission and Outreach Committee (MOC) is excited to share with you that we will be selling coffee and travel mugs, especially designed for Asbury UMC, as our next fundraising project. We plan to ask \$10 for the coffee mugs and \$15 for the travel mugs. The mugs will be available for purchase beginning on Sunday, Nov. 27, the first Sunday after Thanksgiving. The Mission and Outreach budget helps to support five local agencies in Delaware: 1) Andrews House; 2) People in Need; 3) Family Promise; 4) Habitat for Humanity, and 5) the Common Ground Free Store. In addition, the MOC supports individuals in need who may have no connection to Asbury UMC at all and other organizations or individuals whose stories are brought to our attention. As the Ecumenical Youth Group asserts, "Work is God's love made visible." Please do some Christmas shopping, buy some mugs, and help us to help others in our community and beyond. Let's all do God's work in the ways we can.

## Worksheet

### An Intentional Covenant through Spiritual Stewardship Practices

#### A Process for Creating Intention: Journal Guideline

**1. Prayers** – name my intention about my prayer life.

Questions:

- How do I pray for family, friends, community, nation, world?
- If I do not use words for prayer, might I take some time out for creativity, to develop the artist/writer within as a connection with God?
- How do I walk with God on a daily basis?
- Is silence possible in my life?
- Where do I meet beauty on a regular basis? Do I look for it?
- How do I deepen relationship with God, with others, and with creation?
- Do I take time to have conversations that foster mindfulness, hope, and compassion?
- What will be my intention for the next year in relationship with God and God's creation?

**2. Relationships** – name my intention about how I relate to family, friends, and also the stranger.

Questions:

- How do I describe my relationships with family, friends, and the stranger?
- What disappoints me about my part in these relationships? What brings me joy?
- How does God move in relationships?
- What random acts of kindness or compassion have I experienced? What random acts have I initiated?
- Where do I put my resources in light of relationships?
- What will be my intention for the next year in relationship with family, friends, and strangers?

**3. Resources** – name my intention about how I care for my time and finances.

Questions:

How do I steward my resources in light of prayer and relationships that I named above?

Do I have a focused use of resources?

How do my resources participate in God's work?

What do my resources-uses say about me?

What will be my intention for the next year in relationship with my resources and how they connect to God and God's creation?

*My Intention*

**Covenant Through Spiritual Stewardship Practices**

**Please bring this completed sheet to church on Sunday and place in the clear box.**

If you would like one person only (financial secretary) to read your intentions, keep the envelope unsealed. Put your name on the front.

If you would prefer to keep your intentions between you and God, seal the envelope. Put your name on the front.

1. Prayers – name my intention about my prayer life and connection with God (use as many lines and the reverse side of the sheet as needed).

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2. Relationships – name my intention about how I relate to family, friends, and also the stranger in connection with God (use as many lines and the reverse as needed).

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3. Resources – name my intention about how I care for my time and finances in connection with God (use as many lines and the reverse as needed).

I will give \_\_\_\_\_(time) to \_\_\_\_\_.

I will give \_\_\_\_\_(time) to \_\_\_\_\_.

I will give \_\_\_\_\_(time) to \_\_\_\_\_.

I will give \_\_\_\_\_(time) to \_\_\_\_\_.

I will give \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per week/month \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_.

I will give \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per week/month \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_.

I will give \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per week/month \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_.

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ASBURY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
55 West Lincoln Avenue  
Delaware, Ohio 43015

Non-Profit Org.  
U. S. Postage  
PAID  
Delaware, Ohio  
Permit No. 43

**Return Service Requested**



Pastor: Reverend Philip Wilden  
Office Hours: 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Tues—Fri.  
Phone: (740) 363-3611/Fax: (740) 368-8405  
Website: [www.asburyohio.org](http://www.asburyohio.org)  
E-mail : [church@asburyohio.org](mailto:church@asburyohio.org)

November 2011 Church Newsletter

