



Boulevard Presbyterian Church's

# Good News

*Reaching out to make disciples.*

February 2012

Volume 15, Issue 2

[www.BlvdChurch.org](http://www.BlvdChurch.org)



## Spaghetti Dinner

### Deacons' Annual Spaghetti Dinner

Ash Wednesday ~ February 22nd

5:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall

Bring the family and join us for a great spaghetti dinner made by our very own Deacons! Enjoy dinner with other church members and families then stay for the Ash Wednesday Service at 7:00 p.m. Please sign up on the sheets in the lounge to let us know how many to expect. There will not be a charge for this dinner; however, donations will be accepted.

### Ash Wednesday Service 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Plan to join us for this traditional service which includes the *Imposition of the Ashes* as we enter into the season of *Lent*.



### Connecting with God and Community in Lent February 29th through March 28th 5:30 p.m. ~ Dinner in Fellowship Hall 6:15 p.m. ~ Contemplative Worship ~ Chapel

During Lent, we will once again be offering Wednesday evening gatherings at Boulevard. From Wednesday, February 29<sup>th</sup> through Wednesday, March 28<sup>th</sup>, we will gather for a simple soup and salad meal followed by a time of contemplative worship. Dinner will begin at 5:30 and worship will be at about 6:15. If you have not been a part of a contemplative worship experience (such as Taize or Iona), it is not something you want to miss. Each evening will be filled with gentle and simple music, prayers, and silence. There will be chances for you to connect deeply with "the peace that passes all understanding" as we ponder the question: "who is this Jesus." We hope that you will join us.



### From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

If you were at the annual meeting of the congregation on January 22, you heard two reports that some found hard to reconcile. One report told of a drop in pledges for 2012 compared to 2011, and so even though we were “in the black” for 2011, 2012 will be a challenge. A second report came from a committee exploring the idea of renovating the sanctuary. This second report was mostly conceptual, without actual designs or plans, but the concept envisions a modest renovation that would likely cost something over \$200,000. That’s small change as renovation projects go but a lot of money nonetheless.

I’ve spoken to some folks who wonder how we can talk about tight budgets and six figure renovation projects in the same breath. I certainly understand why people would wonder if this is a good time for such a project. It is reasonable to have such concerns and to worry that the church not get overextended financially. These are valid concerns, but I also worry about what happens when a congregation loses its capacity to take risks.

Any renovation plans are so preliminary that it is premature for me to argue for or against them. The question of whether or not God is calling us to this task in the near future is one that still needs to be wrestled with by Session and others. My concern is with a position against any renovation based solely on the idea that it would be risky financially. If God is calling us to renovate the sanctuary, we will find the resources to do so. But if we say no to any renovation because we’re not sure we have the money, then that seems to describe a church that is nothing more than the combined resources of its members. That doesn’t look like the church of Jesus Christ to me, but a purely human institution that rises and falls on human strengths and weaknesses. Yet if the church is nothing more than those of us gathered here, why would we even bother to speak of the power of the Holy Spirit or of God’s grace and providence?

Many Christians know well and are fond of the gospel stories of Jesus feeding the multitudes from a bit of bread and a couple of fish. There are no less than six different accounts in the gospels of Jesus miraculously feeding great crowds with almost nothing. In Matthew and Mark, two separate feeding miracles happen in quick succession. Curiously the disciples say almost the same thing both times. “Where are we to get enough bread in the desert to feed so great a crowd?”

It is hard for me to imagine having a Christian faith of much consequence without having had some personal experience of God providing in surprising ways. And yet, like those disciples of old, we are quick to forget. Like them, we imagine that our resources can stretch no further than we can divide those five loaves and two fish.

I mentioned above that renovating our sanctuary may or may not be the thing Jesus asks us to do that seems difficult, even impossible, when we first hear of it. But I have no doubt that Jesus is calling us to something where we can help the world see God’s power at work in the world. Where do you hear Jesus looking at the crowd and saying to us, “You give them something to eat.”?

Peace in Christ,

#### **Session Update At its January 4 meeting the Session:**

- Spent time in prayer, singing, and listening to Scripture
- Approved minutes from the November 28 Congregational meeting and November Session meeting
- Received John and Jennifer Lamotta into membership upon their reaffirmation of faith in worship
- Set January 15 for a lunch meeting with Deacons following worship. This meeting is to continue discussions growing out of a Session/Deacon retreat last Fall. At the meeting officers will continue to explore where God is calling us and how to plan for renewal and transformation.
- Heard preliminary reports on the 2012 budget; 2011 was a good year financially, but there is a drop in pledges for 2012 compared to 2011.
- Heard preliminary report from the Renovation Committee and asked that they make an informal presentation at the Congregational Meeting on January 22
- Discussed Finance/Personnel’s proposals for changes in the pastor’s terms of call. After lengthy consideration and debate, approved terms for congregational vote on January 22.

# International Mission Trip Fundraisers



## Election Day Bake Sale Tuesday, March 6th

**Calling All Bakers!!** Tuesday, March 6th is Primary Election Day and Boulevard will be hosting a bake sale in an area next to the voting site in Fellowship hall. Sheets for you to sign up to help with the sale are in the lounge ~ we will need donated baked goods as well as volunteers to help the day of the sale. Thank you for volunteering your time and baking talents.

## Honduras Mission Rummage Sale

**Friday, April 20 from 4:00 – 7:00**  
**Saturday, April 21 from 10:00 – 3:00**  
**Fellowship Hall**



Winter is the perfect time to start cleaning closets, drawers, basements, etc. We would love to have your cast-offs for the Honduras Mission Rummage Sale. The Mission Team is collecting donations now, and they can be left in the room off the lounge (former home of the library). Please let us know if you need assistance with your donations. We can make arrangements to pick up the items from your home. Suggested items:

Antiques	Books – Adult & Children	Lawn Equipment
Collectibles	Books on Tape	Patio Furniture
Crystal/China	Wicker Baskets	Toys
Kitchenware	Any Type of Holiday Décor	Purses/Bags
Pots & Pans	Office Supplies	Jewelry
Dishes	Tools	Furniture
Glasses/Cups	Music	Puzzles
Linens	Board Games	Craft Supplies
Frames or Framed Pictures	Sports Equipment	Memorabilia

We are also accepting children's clothing, designer and vintage clothing. Please make sure all clothing is clean without stains. Aside from donations, volunteers will be needed to help price as the donations are received, serve food on Friday evening and Saturday, and donate home baked goods.

Please contact Charmaine Hamilton @ [charmainehamilton@hotmail.com](mailto:charmainehamilton@hotmail.com) or 488-4710 if you have any questions or need assistance with donations.

Updates to the trip and rummage sale will be ongoing. Thank you.

*Honduras Mission Team*



## Heifer International Mission Project

The Mission Committee is again offering an opportunity for the congregation to contribute directly to a mission project that will help feed hungry people throughout the world. Over the past year we have been hearing that mission work should involve the congregation more and not just write a check from the general fund.

Heifer International is an organization that Boulevard has supported in the past. Their mission is to work with communities to end hunger and poverty and care for the Earth. Since 1944 they have provided food-and-income-producing animals to resource-poor families in over 125 countries. The following are the animal prices:

Heifer	\$500	Pig	\$120
Water Buffalo	\$250	Trees	\$ 60
Llama	\$150	Trio of Rabbits	\$ 60
Goat	\$120	Honeybee hive	\$ 30
Sheep	\$120	Flock of Chickens	\$ 20

### Why a Water Buffalo?

Water Buffalo are strong, and can plow a field or pull a heavy load with ease. This increases a field's output by four times than if plowed by hand. They eat weeds and grasses in areas that might not support other livestock. They provide 5% of the world's milk.

### Why a Llama?

Llamas walk well on steep slopes, helping families to carry loads. Families comb or shear their fur to produce up to ten pounds of fleece per year. This fleece is used to make ponchos and sweaters or sold to provide income for the family. They like to stay in a herd, and can live up to 20 years.

### Why a Goat?

Goat milk is rich in protein and makes tasty cheese and yogurt. A single goat can give up to a gallon of milk per day. Goats thrive on unproductive land. Keeping a goat costs one sixth as much as keeping a cow.

### Why bees?

Bees help pollinate plants. The presence of bees means more produce from crops and orchards. In addition to providing a sweet treat to eat honey and beeswax can be sold to increase family income. Bees produce about three times as much honey as the hive needs. Beekeeping can be done part-time and requires low start-up costs. The Mission Committee would like to aggregate the gifts from the congregation and provide one gift from Boulevard. We will be collecting funds during the month of February. Please be sure to put Heifer in the memo line of your check.

## Virtual Travelers for Honduras / Heifer International Trip

By the end of January, we hope to finalize the group that will go to Honduras next July. When we have the complete list of names, we will invite all members of the congregation who are not able to travel to Honduras to accompany us as "virtual travelers."


If you would like to make a contribution to a specific "traveler," they will be able to provide you with their Honduras address to read their individual daily journals. There will also be a daily "general" journal for everyone to follow as we travel. Watch for more information in the bulletins and newsletter. Thank you for your prayers most of all!

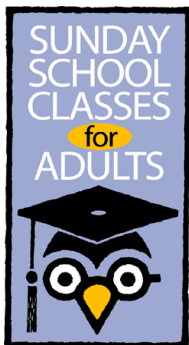
There will be a listing as to how much each traveler still needs to make the trip possible (most travelers will need \$1,800) as well as the need to have funding for everyone to meet their goal.



## Sunday Morning Christian Education

Grade	Description	Room
Preschool	<b>We Believe</b> ~ Beginning approximately age 3 ~ for those children not yet in Kindergarten.	202
Kindergarten to Third Grade	<b>“Rotation”</b> classes. We have a combined K-1st Grade class and a combined 2nd-3rd Grade class. They rotate to different classrooms in order to explore a single topic over several weeks using different learning methods (ie. Games, cooking). Please see Rotation Schedule.	Various See Below
4th to 7th Grade	<b>I Know My Bible: New Testament</b>	305
8th to 12th Grade	<b>Walking With Christ</b>	303

<p><i>Rotation Sunday School</i> <i>Parable of the Good Samaritan</i></p> 		
DATES	K-1 <sup>st</sup> Grade	Grades 2-3
February 5th	Holy-Wood Room 301	Creation Station Room 113
February 12th	Mission Kitchen Room 103	Holy-Wood Room 301
February 19th	Creation Station Room 113	Mission Kitchen Room 103



## Adult Education Sundays at 10:00 a.m.

### “WHAT’S GOD UP TO?”

#### Guidance for the Missional Church from the Parables of Jesus

- January 29th**    **“The Prodigal Father and His Two Ridiculous Sons”** ~ Luke 15.11-32
- February 5th**    **“Blessed Dishonesty: How Ironic Is That?”** ~ Luke 16.1-13
- February 12th**    **“But It’s Not Fair!”** ~ Matthew 20.1-15
- February 19th**    **“None of Our Business”** ~ Matthew 13.24-30

The parables of Jesus challenge some of our cherished assumptions (such as playing by the rules, being honest and fair, and passing judgment on wrongdoers) even as they reveal a God who defies our expectations. In his parables, Jesus shows us what God is up to and in turn provide guidance for his church in furthering God’s mission.

This class will be taught by **Brad Binau** who has taught at Trinity Lutheran Seminary since 1993 after serving six years in parish ministry in La Jolla, California. Brad is a graduate of Capital University, Trinity Lutheran Seminary and Princeton Theological Seminary. His wife, Ann, is Associate Pastor at Broad Street Presbyterian Church (since 1995). They have three children, Martin, Sarah and Trevor. In July 2011 Brad began serving Trinity as the Academic Dean.



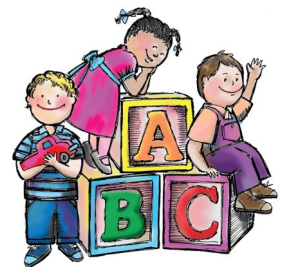
## Bring a Friend Sunday ~ February 19th

On **Sunday, February 19**, the Discipleship Ministry Team is hosting a “Bring a Friend to Church” event. By the time you receive this newsletter, you will hopefully have seen or heard stories shared by the members of Discipleship Ministry Team. The stories spoke to times in our lives when someone reached out to us when we were alone or felt like an outsider, and a friend or acquaintance reached out to us and it made all the difference.

In the same way, we are encouraging everyone to think about someone in your life who might just appreciate an invitation to be included in this event and then...invite them! Invitations will be available in the lounge that you can take and give to your friend if that is helpful. There will be a special fellowship hour following each service with homemade breakfast/brunch items and tables set up that we might all enjoy conversation and fellowship with all of our friends and guests! Questions? Please contact a member of the Discipleship Ministry Team: Ginny Achtermann, Amy Creighton, Steve Hills and Travis Williamson.

## Boulevard Preschool Registration Opens February 15th for Church Members

The following programs will be offered by **Boulevard Preschool** beginning the fall of 2012. For a registration packet or more information, please contact **Mikie Bowles, Preschool Administrator, at 486-2362. Or, check the church website and click on the Preschool Link.**



### Traditional Preschool Options

The traditional part-time program offers classes September through May. Classes are 2-1/4 hours in length. The number of days is dependent on the age of the child.

One-Day AM Class: Supervised Play Group

Two-Day AM Class: For Young 3's

Three-Day AM and PM Classes: Older 3's and Young 4's

Four Day AM and PM Classes: Older 4's Preparing for Kindergarten

Five Day AM Class: For 5's Preparing for Kindergarten

### Preschool/Child Care Program

Boulevard also provides a full day, year-round program, from 7:30 in the morning until 5:30 in the evening. This program is geared for 3 to 5 year olds. The morning hours follow a traditional preschool schedule. After lunch, there is a rest time followed by a mixture of free play and organized activity. This program is designed to meet the needs of working parents who want their child(ren) to benefit from a preschool environment.

Enrollment is open first to full-time participants enrolled year-round, and then to part-time participants as space is available. If you have any questions or wish to register, contact **Lola Smith at 486-2362.**

### Gracias!



Thank  
You

Many thanks to all for your prayers, cards, calls, and concerns for me during my recent surgeries. Special thanks to James. See you all soon.

Sara Beaber

## Liturgical Arts Group Monday, February 6th ~ 7:00 p.m.

On **Monday, February 6<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 p.m.** a group will meet in the lounge to explore and brainstorm how the visual arts might impact our worship. We will look specifically at ideas for Lent and Easter. All are welcome to join in this endeavor. If you have any questions, please speak with Jeremy Roberts. We hope to see you there!

**Presbyterian Women**  
**Concern for Social Justice and**  
**Human Rights of Farmworkers in the Florida Tomato Fields**



The Presbyterian Church (USA) Campaign for Fair Food:

Florida tomato pickers:

- ◆ Earn sub-poverty wages;
- ◆ Have not had a real raise in 30 years;
- ◆ Lack many standard rights and benefits;
- ◆ Have been freed from slavery rings in the fields.

**Nine** major retailers including McDonald’s, Subway and Whole Foods have worked with the coalition of Immokalee Workers (CIW) to improve wages and enforce a code of conduct for fair conditions.

As a conscientious consumer, **by signing a card you** can urge **Kroger** to join the movement to ensure human rights and fair wages for tomato pickers. The cards and more information are available on the large table in the lounge. In February, all signed cards will be delivered to Kroger by representatives of the Presbyterian Women of Scioto Valley.

**PW of Scioto Valley Planning Meeting**

On **Saturday, February 11th**, Boulevard Presbyterian Women will host the meeting of the **PW of Scioto Valley coordinating and planning team** here at Boulevard.

**Buckhorn of Ohio**

You may remember the Buckhorn Children’s program at Chesterville, Ohio which was a mission project of Boulevard PW for several years. The program has been re-organized and is now called Tri-State Youth Authority dba Tri-State Academy. A picture is posted on the bulletin board by the usher’s table. Several Boulevard PW Quilters made a boy’s bed quilt for one cottage.

**A reminder—no Boulevard Presbyterian Women’s gathering in February.**

**Local Mission Opportunities**

**NNEMAP Food Pantry**

The next Food Mission Sunday is **February 26th** (the fourth Sunday of each month), and our needs this month are:

- ◆ Canned Chicken
- ◆ Powdered Milk
- ◆ Bars of Hand Soap (Not Liquid)

Brown grocery bags are always needed.

**Don’t throw them away!**




The shampoo, soap, lotion and coffee packets that hotels provide for guests are ideal for NNEMAP clients, particularly the homeless. Bring these items with your monthly food donations and they will be distributed at the pantry!

**Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!**

**Contributions and Expenses  
December 2011**

	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Budget</b>
Contributions	37,785.30	32,749.99
Expenses	<u>31,562.71</u>	<u>33,264.47</u>
Surplus or (Deficit)	<u>6,222.59</u>	<u>(514.48)</u>
<b>Year-to-Date</b>		
Contributions	380,488.58	393,000.00
Expenses	<u>363,621.89</u>	<u>399,176.40</u>
Surplus or (Deficit)	<u>16,866.69</u>	<u>(6,176.40)</u>

## February 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <h1 style="font-size: 2em; margin: 0;">Leap Year</h1>			1 <b>9:00 am:</b> Quilters <b>4:30 pm:</b> Kids Club <b>5:45 pm</b> Pack Committee Scout Kids <b>6:15 pm</b> Children's Choir <b>6:30 pm</b> Cub Scouts <b>7:15 pm:</b> Bell Choir <b>7:30 pm:</b> NA Group	2 <b>6:00 pm</b> Music Team <b>7:00 pm</b> FA Group <b>7:30 pm</b> Choir Rehearsal GA Group	3	4
5 <b>Cents-Ability Sunday</b> <b>9:00 am</b> Worship: Chapel <b>10:00 am</b> Christian Ed <b>11:15 am</b> Worship: Sanctuary	6 <b>7:00 pm</b> Boy Scouts	7 <b>10:00 am</b> Staff <b>7:30 pm</b> AA Group	8 <b>9:00 am:</b> Quilters <b>4:30 pm</b> Kids Club <b>6:15 pm</b> Children's Choir Cub Den 21 <b>7:15 pm:</b> Bell Choir <b>7:30 pm</b> NA Group	9 <b>9:45 am</b> Naomi Circle <b>10:30 am</b> PW Bible Study <b>6:00 pm</b> Preschool Moms Music Team <b>7:00 pm</b> FA Group <b>7:30pm</b> Choir Rehearsal GA Group	10	11 <b>9:00 am to 2:00 pm</b> <i>Coordinating Team Meeting For PW of Scioto Valley</i>
12 <b>9:00 am</b> Worship: Chapel <b>10:00 am</b> Christian Ed <b>11:15 am</b> Worship: Sanctuary	13 <b>1:00 pm</b> Staff <b>7:00 pm</b> Deacons Worship and Music Boy Scouts	14  <b>Happy Valentine's Day</b> <b>7:00 pm</b> Discipleship Property <b>7:30 pm</b> AA Group	15 <b>BPC Preschool Church Members May Register</b> <b>9:00 am:</b> Quilters <b>4:30 pm</b> Kids Club <b>6:15 pm</b> Children's Choir Cub Den 4 <b>7:15 pm:</b> Bell Choir <b>7:30 pm</b> NA Group	16 <b>6:00 pm</b> Music Team <b>7:00 pm</b> FA Group <b>7:30 pm</b> Choir Rehearsal GA Group	17	18
19 <b>Transfiguration of the Lord</b> <b>Bring a Friend to Church!</b> <b>9:00 am</b> Worship: Chapel <b>10:00 am</b> Christian Ed <b>11:15 am</b> Worship: Sanctuary	20 <b>Newsletter Deadline</b> <b>10:00 am</b> Finance and Personnel <b>7:00 pm</b> Christian Ed Boy Scouts	21 <b>10:00 am</b> Staff <b>7:30 pm</b> AA Group	22 <b>Ash Wednesday</b> <b>9:00 am:</b> Quilters <b>4:30 pm</b> Kids Club <b>5:30 pm</b> Spaghetti Dinner <b>7:00 pm</b> Ash Wednesday Service <b>7:30 pm</b> NA Group	23 <b>6:00 pm</b> Music Team <b>7:00 pm</b> FA Group <b>7:30 pm</b> Choir Rehearsal GA Group	24	25
26 <b>First Sunday in Lent</b> <b>Food Mission Sunday</b> <b>9:00 am</b> Worship: Chapel <b>10:00 am</b> Christian Ed <b>11:15 am</b> Worship: Sanctuary <b>12:30 pm</b> Prayer Shawl Ministry	27 <b>1:00 pm</b> Staff <b>7:00 pm</b> Session Boy Scouts Cub Den 7	28 <b>7:30 pm</b> AA Group	29 <b>9:00 am:</b> Quilters <b>4:30 pm</b> Kids Club <b>5:30 pm</b> Lenten Dinner Worship <b>6:30 pm</b> Children's Choir <b>7:30 pm:</b> Bell Choir <b>7:30 pm</b> NA Group	<b>Lenten Dinners and Worship Begin Wednesday, February 29th</b> 		



## Boulevard Prayer Chain

If you would like to make a prayer request, please contact Jan Plas at 486-7510 or the Church Office at 486-0267.

### Recent Prayer Concerns

Sara Beaber, recuperating at home  
 Mary Ann Byers, Arlington Court  
 Dick Christman, at home  
 Cathie Cope, recuperating at home  
 Harriett Curtis, Westminster Thurber Rehab  
 Fred Ferris, at home  
 Barbara Frautschi, at home  
 Mary Harris, at home  
 Gus Hoehl, at home  
 Kay Jones, at home  
 Brita Knapp, continued remission  
 Hob Neff, at home  
 Mark Nicholson, receiving treatment  
 Peggy Pasko, at home  
 Dorothy Pinney, at home  
 Eric Rieve, Columbus Alzheimer Care Center  
 Ann Savage, recuperating at home  
 Ruth Smith, at home  
 Mary Thomas, at home  
 Margaret Ward, Westminster Thurber HCC

### Christian Sympathies To . . .

Nancy and Wendy Bolen and family on the death of Nancy's mother, **Geraldine Barr**, on January 17, 2012 in Massachusetts.

Leni Leypoldt and family on the death of Leni's sister, **Selma**, in Germany.

### Congratulations To . . .

Lana and Travis Williamson on the birth of their daughter, **Liv**, on December 24, 2011.



## Celebrating February Birthdays

Catherine Neffenger	1	Katie Schmidt	12
Joanne Sheets	4	Rachel Conner	12
Analisa Trares	4	Judy Pierce	13
Kevin Hicks	5	Dan Hooley	13
Fred Ferris	6	Ronald Nines	15
Ann Mattiaccy	7	Regina Lukich	16
Nancy Bolen	8	Carol Agler	17
Michael Frase	8	Fannie Miller	23
Lily Feast	9	Harold Cheyney	25
Shawn Sledge	9	Marlin Cheyney	26
Beth Snider	10	Merri Bame	28

# Boulevard Staff

### Pastor

**The Rev. James Sledge**

Ext. 26

Home: 485-1737

### Music Director

**Jeremy Roberts**

Ext. 16

### Organist and

**Keyboard**

**Mary Ann Stephens**

Ext. 16

### Building Manager

**Mark Key**

Ext. 22

### Office Manager

**Linda Johnson**

Ext. 12

## Session

### Class of 2012

Mary Clifton  
 Amy Creighton  
 Ian Rennick  
 Melissa Schmidt

### Class of 2013

Ginny Achtermann  
 Jim Bailey  
 Phyllis Miller  
 Kay Rieve

### Class of 2014

Jan Plas  
 Ken Pierce  
 Sandy Ferguson  
 Travis Williamson

## Deacons

### Class of 2012

George Ells  
 Allyson Engdahl  
 Paul McCalla  
 Stefanie Osborne

### Class of 2013

Amy Johnson  
 Carol McFadden  
 Michael Schmidt

### Class of 2014

Jane Conner  
 Marty Kuhn  
 Sean McCormick

## Cents-Ability Update

**Nickels for Hunger**  
**2-Cents-A-Meal**  
**Penny Power!**

Our new program year just started and so far **\$299.46** has been donated for Cents-Ability.

Please remember to put your pennies, nickels, dimes and quarters in your Cents-Ability bank each day, then bring your banks to church and add your loose change to the Cents-Ability jar!

**Deadline for March Good News**  
**Monday, February 20th**