



Boulevard Presbyterian Church's

Good News

Reaching out to make disciples.

October 2011

Volume 14, Issue 10

www.BlvdChurch.org



World Communion Sunday Sunday, October 2nd

75 years ago, in the midst of economic crisis and impending war, Presbyterians broke bread and prayed for the world, thus starting World Communion Sunday.

As we mark this 75th anniversary in another time of global economic crisis and devastating violence, clearly the world still needs our prayers.

On **October 2nd**, to help us feel connected to other parts of the world, we will display items from other countries in the chapel and sanctuary during worship. **If you have decorative or cultural items from other nations that you could lend to the services on World Communion Sunday, please bring the items to the church office by Friday, September 30th.**

Also, **if you have clothing that represents or is inspired by your ethnic heritage or just another region of the world, we invite you to wear the clothing to worship on October 2nd.** Touches of kilts, lederhosen, caftans, kente cloth, family plaids, kimonos, etc. would inspire us to remember our brothers and sisters in Christ around the globe and all those who need our prayers. Look forward to breaking breads from around the world, singing praises from a variety of global traditions and hearing more about Boulevard's mission outreach to Honduras.

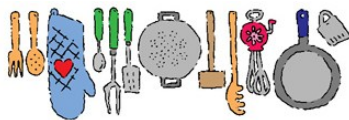
Avoiding the Columbus Marathon Sunday, October 16th

On **Sunday, October 16th** the Columbus Marathon will come through our neighborhood. The simplest way to avoid being blocked by the marathon is to use Route 315. If you are coming southbound, exit at Kinnear Road / Lennox Square and follow Olentangy to King Avenue, then King to Northwest Boulevard. Coming northbound on 315, take the exit for OSU Hospital, turn right on Cannon and right on King Avenue to Northwest Boulevard. This will eliminate crossing the marathon route.



International Mission Trip Fundraisers

Pampered Chef Party ~ Saturday, October 8th in the Lounge



Calling all chefs (or anyone for that matter!) the International Mission Trip Committee will be hosting a church-wide **Pampered Chef Party on Saturday, October 8th at 11:00 a.m.** Approximately 20% of the sales will be donated to the mission trip. Please look for the sign up sheet in the lounge. Bring a friend!

Restaurant Fundraiser ~ Thursday, October 6th at . . .

*Max & Erma's
On Cemetery Road in Hilliard*



Would you like to meet for lunch or dinner? **Thursday, October 6th** will be the first restaurant fundraiser for the mission trip. **Max & Erma's on Cemetery Road in Hilliard** will donate a percentage of their sales to Boulevard. All you need to do is eat and bring in the enclosed flyer. We will be able to continue this again if we raise \$1,000 in sales. You can use the flyer for lunch, dinner and take out. So, if you're not able to stay for dinner take it to go! If you have any questions, Steve & Martha Hills, Jim Bailey, Melissa & Michael Schmidt, Mary Clifton, Marty Kuhn, Amy Creighton, Sandy Ferguson, Grace Parks and Kyme Rennick are available to answer them.



Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

In last month's newsletter, I mentioned the long trend of declining church participation in America. And if these numbers weren't disturbing enough, I have read studies which suggest that actual numbers are much worse. It seems we Americans tend to over-report our religious participation. Some studies tried to correlate numbers Americans give to pollsters with actual attendance figures reported from congregations. These studies charted worship figures around half the 46% or so reported in polls.

From the Pastor's Desk

If such studies are to be believed, less than a quarter of Americans attend worship on any given week. And while some Pentecostal denominations continue to grow, denominations like our own continue to hemorrhage members. Of course many Presbyterians don't need polls or statistics to tell them this. They've seen it first hand as the number of empty pews rises and the money for staff, ministry, and mission drops. More and more congregations have lapsed into survival mode and are focused on how to keep going. In a few congregations, this becomes so pronounced that no real sense of mission or purpose any longer exists. I've actually heard members of small, struggling congregations say, "I just want them to keep the church open long enough for me to have my funeral here."

I suppose I can understand how someone, worn down by years of congregational decline, might hope for little more than this. But such thinking seems to view a congregation as nothing more than a group of people, its fortunes purely a function of the strengths or weaknesses of those people. I've said it before, but it bears repeating. Where is the power of God in this picture of a congregation? Where is the Holy Spirit?

In a sermon over the summer, I offered this quote attributed to Earnest Campbell, the pastor of Riverside Church in NYC back in the 1970s. "The reason that we seem to lack faith in our time is that we are not doing anything that requires it." I take that to mean that we are doing no more than we think we can do on our own, with no expectation that the power of God is at work in us. When congregations do not think that God is at work in their midst, is there any reason for them to exist?

Such issues come to my mind as the church enters the traditional time for stewardship season. Despite the high sounding term *stewardship*, this season is often mostly about keeping things going, about fundraising, institutional maintenance, and survival. And I could probably repeat my questions about congregations here. Where is the power of God in our stewardship? Where is the Holy Spirit?

Such questions suggest that stewardship campaigns can fail even when giving goes up. An increase in giving not connected to a growth in faith, a growth in trusting the power of God at work, or a deepening desire to walk with Jesus, will not really do much other than keep things going.

In these difficult times we live in, many of us desperately need to hear good news and experience real hope. But I do not think that real hope comes from finding enough money to pay the bills and salaries. Real hope comes from experiencing God at work and realizing that we are invited to be a part of it. Real hope requires faith, and faith is much more than believing the correct things. Faith is entrusting God with our lives.

When you think about stewardship and pledges and giving this year, I hope you will do much more than think about keeping the doors open and the bills paid. I hope you will think about how you can grow in faith, how your identity as someone "in Christ" can become more and more the center of your life, and how God is calling us as a community to be the Spirit-filled body of Christ to the world around us.

Peace in Christ,

Session Update At its August meeting the Session:

- Spent time in worship, prayer and Bible study
- Named Ken Pierce, Kay Rieve, and Grace Parks to a study group to explore possible renovation or refurbishment options for the sanctuary and Church entrances. Jon Stephens and Jeremy Roberts will provide ex officio assistance.
- Invited the Rev. Phil Ferguson to be guest preacher on August 28th.
- Approved the following: previous meeting minutes; transfer of John Bolen to Covenant Presbyterian in Springfield; new pictorial directory contract; formula and diaper collection for COMPASS.
- Called a congregational meeting on September 11 to elect new officers and nominating committee.
- Discussed implications of the changes in our denomination's *Book of Order*, including a Session Manual of Operations.
- Tentatively proposed an officers' retreat with Deacons for Saturday, Oct. 15.
- Closed the meeting with singing and prayer.

**New Pictorial Directory
Calling all smiles!**



Do you ever see people and wonder what their names are? Have you ever greeted someone, but the following week forgot their names? Are you a new member or even a long term member and wish you had something to help you put names with faces? Help is on the way! We are publishing a new pictorial directory!

There will be no cost to have your portrait taken, and you will receive a complimentary 8 x 10 portrait and church directory just for participating. At your photo session you will be able to view your images electronically and have the opportunity to purchase additional portraits to share with family and friends. Pets are welcome to be photographed with you. If you are considering purchasing additional photographs, bring one item listed on our food pantry donations list and you will receive an additional \$5.00 off the purchase price of your photos.

Scheduled dates for photo sessions are **from 2:30 p.m. through 8:30 p.m. on Thursday, October 6th and Friday, October 7th**, and **from 10:00 a.m. through 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, October 8th**. Spaces are filling up fast, so if you haven't signed up yet please visit the church's website to find the link for registration. On Sunday mornings, online registration will be suspended from 8:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. so we can register those who wish to register before or after church.

We hope everyone will choose to be a part of this wonderful opportunity.



**Martha Agler's
100th Birthday!**
Saturday, October 1st
1:30 until 3:00
In the Lounge

On October 4, 2011 Martha Agler will reach her milestone 100th birthday. In honor of this event, her family is hosting a reception for the congregation and the community on **Saturday, October 1, 2011 from 1:30 until 3:00** in the Lounge at Boulevard. Please join us in celebrating this momentous and joyful occasion!

**Watch Out . . .
Flying Pancakes are Back!**

Sunday, October 23rd
9:45 a.m. ~ Fellowship Hall

The Deacons are sponsoring the Annual pancake Breakfast on **Sunday, October 23rd**. The breakfast and fun will begin at 9:45 and we hope everyone from both services will attend. Breakfast will include sausage, orange juice, coffee and of course ~ PANCAKES. There is no charge for this meal and we hope you will mark your calendars and enjoy this time of food, fun and fellowship with us!



An Evening of Great Music!
Sunday, October 30th ~ 7:00 p.m.
Maynard Avenue United Methodist Church

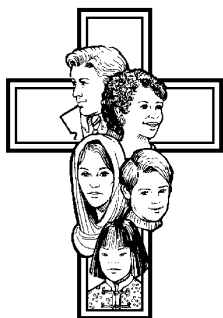
"With a Thankful Heart"

On **Sunday, October 30th**, Boulevard's Chancel Choir will once again be taking part in the annual NSI Concert. This year, Joyful Noise, our children's choir, will be joining in the fun as well! The NSI Concert is an annual concert featuring musical groups from many area churches. There is a free will offering taken at the concert and all proceeds go towards support of the ministries of Neighborhood Services, Inc. With a mix of hymns, individual choir anthems, and a number of pieces with the combined power of all the choirs together, the night is a moving musical extravaganza. This year's concert theme is ***"With a Thankful Heart."*** Come out, support NSI and our church's choirs, and enjoy an evening of uplifting music.

Sunday October 30th at 7:00 p.m.
Maynard Avenue United Methodist Church
2350 Indianola Avenue



Mission Committee Focus On:



Minute for Mission this month focuses on COMPASS (Congregational Outreach Ministries Program of Assistance & Social Services), a partnership of over twenty faith-based and community organizations hosted by Broad Street Presbyterian Church. COMPASS aids individuals and families who are experiencing an economic crisis which threatens them with homelessness by providing emergency financial assistance, replacement household goods, professional social work and counseling services. Preventing homelessness not only saves these families the anguish and stress of losing their homes and belongings, but it also relieves social service agencies and the community in general of the costs of providing items such as emergency shelter, food, relocation assistance, and replacement furniture once the family has become homeless.

Boulevard has been a supporter of COMPASS since the 1980's. Currently, \$3,600 is allocated to COMPASS from our mission budget for financial assistance, and we collect diapers and formula for them to pass out to their clientele.

In this time when so many who never expected to become homeless are face to face with it, we are thankful to God that we have resources to share to help them through their crisis.

Formula and Diaper Drive for COMPASS



The Deacons' Mission Committee is asking for your help in stocking the shelves of COMPASS with diapers and formula. For many needy families, diapers and formula are "luxuries" and supplies of these items often limited at food pantries. One pantry told us that a baby will receive 6 diapers ***for the week*** when supplies are low! Please add diapers and/or formula to your shopping list and help us show Christ's love to these little ones and their families.

WHAT TO BUY:

Diapers (any size) and/or Formula

WHEN TO COLLECT:

Now through October 16th

WHERE TO DROP IT OFF:

The box marked COMPASS in the coatroom or the collection basket in the hallway by the bulletin boards.



Local Mission Opportunities

NNEMAP Food Pantry

The next Food Mission Sunday is **October 23rd** (the fourth Sunday of each month), and our needs this month are:

- ◆ Canned Chicken
- ◆ Chunky Soup
- ◆ 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!

With Grateful Thanks from our Friends at the IHN Family Center

A big thank you to all of you for providing food, preparing food, baking cookies, and serving dinner at the IHN Family Center on Sunday, September 11th. Thanks to all of you, we were able to feed approximately 186 people. We want to pass along to you the many words of thanks we received from the folks we served.

A Big Thank You!

Without the help of so many of you, **Coffee Connector** could not have happened during the summer months. The donation of the varied and delicious breakfast treats were enjoyed by all!

Linda Wilton and the
Worship and Music Team!




Sunday Morning Christian Education

Grade	Description	Room
Preschool	We Believe ~ Beginning approximately age 3 ~ for those children not yet in Kindergarten.	202
Kindergarten to Third Grade	“Rotation” 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	I Know My Bible: New Testament	305
8th to 12th Grade	Walking With Christ	303

Rotation Sunday School Jonah		
DATES	K-1 st Grade	Grades 2-3
October 2	Creation Station Room 113	Holy-Wood Room 301
October 9	Holy-Wood Room 308	Antioch Arcade Room 302
October 16	Antioch Arcade Room 302	Creation Station Room 113
October 23	Flying Pancakes Breakfast at 9:45 in Fellowship Hall ~ No Classes	

October Adult Education

Dates	Description	Room
October 2 nd , 9 th , and 16 th	Discovering the Church from the Inside Out – The People This class will be led by Adam Anderson and will focus on learning about the people in the church, who they are, and how we can connect better with others	111
October 30 th	Using the Arts as Prayer Jeremy Roberts will lead this four week study.	111

Wednesday's for Kids!	
<div style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold; letter-spacing: 0.5em;">Kids Club</div> <p style="text-align: center;">Wednesdays from 4:30 to 6:15 p.m.</p> <p>Kids Club is a midweek program for children in preschool through fifth grade. The afternoon will consist of games, art, Bible stories, on-site service projects, and dinner. Kids Club will run on Wednesdays from 4:30 to 6:15 p.m. All are welcome! Registration packets can be found in the main office. If you have any questions, please contact Jeremy Roberts 614-486-0267 ext. 16</p>	 <p style="text-align: center;">Joyful Noise! Wednesdays at 6:15 p.m.</p> <p>Calling all children in Kindergarten through 5th Grade. Our children's choir, Joyful Noise, meets on Wednesdays at 6:15 p.m.</p>

Calling all Boulevard Authors . . .

2011 Advent Devotional Authors Needed



The Christian Education Committee will continue our “tradition” of preparing and distributing Advent Devotionals again this year. The devotionals consist of a daily devotion written by members and friends from the “Boulevard Family.” This makes our devotionals very unique!

Please consider writing for us this year. If you would like to volunteer to write one of the devotionals, please let Adam Anderson or Jim Baily know and we will add you to the list. We will provide you with a scripture for your devotion by the middle of October. We then need them returned by the first week in November so we can put them together by the end of November.



Presbyterian Women

Thursday, October 6 ~ 11:30 a.m. ~ Lunch at MCL Cafeteria

The Boulevard PW 2011-2012 Kick-off Luncheon will be held at 11:30 a.m. at the MCL Cafeteria, Kingsdale Shopping Center in Upper Arlington on Thursday, October 6th. If you want a ride from the church to the restaurant, **plan to be at the church at 11:00 a.m.** and we will carpool.

Looking ahead to Thursday, November 3rd

Boulevard PW will gather at 11:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. At this meeting we will be dedicating our Thank Offering for PW mission projects. Our program will be presented by **April Lee**, a grief counselor from Kobacker House. She will share information about **Dealing with Loss**. Naomi Circle will provide lunch (Cost ~ \$5.00). Please tell your circle caller if you plan to attend; non-circle women can call Ginny Achtermann at 614-775-0658. This helps in preparing the correct amount of food for lunch. Thanks!

Contributions and Expenses August 2011		
	Actual	Budget
Contributions	30,931.63	32,749.99
Expenses	<u>28,369.49</u>	<u>33,264.47</u>
Surplus or (Deficit)	<u>2,562.14</u>	<u>(514.48)</u>
Year-to-Date		
Contributions	242,275.21	261,999.92
Expenses	<u>244,898.82</u>	<u>266,115.76</u>
Surplus or (Deficit)	<u>(2,623.61)</u>	<u>(4,115.84)</u>

**Women’s Monthly
Potluck Brunch
Saturday, October 22nd
11:00 a.m.**



On **Saturday, October 22nd at 11:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall**, we will gather for a potluck brunch, fellowship and ongoing discussion, about our faith journeys, our spiritual growth and / or service opportunities as we feel led by God. Please sign the sheet in the Lounge to let us know you’re planning to attend and bring your favorite potluck item! Feel free to invite a friend!

**Coming Soon:
Electronic Church Newsletters!!**



In an effort to reduce our paper and mailing costs, we will soon begin using email as the primary method for delivering the **Good News Newsletter**. (You can already view the newsletter on the church website.)

For this to work, if you haven’t already done so, please email or call the church office to verify your preferred email address. For those of you who do not have email, we will place print copies in the narthex and lounge so you may pick up a copy when you are in the church.

And we will still mail newsletters to those who cannot get them any other way. Please let the office know if you need us to mail a copy to you. Thanks for your help!

October 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<u>Some Important Dates</u>						1
October 1: October 6, 7, and 8th: October 6: October 8: October 23:	100th Birthday Celebration for Martha Agler Photo Sessions for New Pictorial Directory Support the Mission Trip ~ Have lunch and / or dinner at Max & Erma's in Hilliard Support the Mission Trip ~ Attend the Pampered Chef Party Pancake Breakfast at 9:45 a.m.					1:30 pm Martha Agler's 100 th Birthday Party
World Communion 2 Sunday Cents-Ability 9:00 am Worship: Chapel 10:00 am Christian Ed 11:15 am Worship: Sanctuary	7:00 pm 3 Boy Scouts	10:00 am 4 Staff 7:30 pm AA Group	9:00 am 5 Quilters 4:30 pm Kids Club 6:15 pm Children's Choir 6:30 pm Cub Scouts 7:15 pm Bell Choir 7:30 pm NA Group	Mission Trip Fundraiser at Max & Erma's 6 11:30 am PW Gathering At MCL 6:00 pm Music Team 7:00 pm FA Group 7:30 pm Choir GA Group	7	11:00 a.m. 8 Mission Trip Fundraiser: Pampered Chef Party
Photo Sessions for New Pictorial Directory						
9:00 am 9 Worship: Chapel 10:00 am Christian Ed 11:15 am Worship: Sanctuary	1:00 pm 10 Staff 7:00 pm Deacons Boy Scouts 7:30 pm Worship and Music	7:00 pm 11 Discipleship Property 7:30 pm AA Group	9:00 am 12 Quilters 4:30 pm Kids Club 6:15 pm Children's Choir Cub Den 21 7:15 pm Bell Choir 7:30 pm NA Group	9:45 am 13 Naomi Circle 10:30 am PW Bible Study 6:00 pm Music Team 7:00 pm FA Group 7:30 pm Choir GA Group	14	Officer's Retreat 15
Linda ~ Vacation						
9:00 am 16 Worship: Chapel 10:00 am Christian Ed 11:15 am Worship: Sanctuary	Newsletter Deadline 17 10:00 am Finance and Personnel 7:00 pm Christian Ed Boy Scouts	10:00 am 18 Staff 7:30 pm AA Group	9:00 am 19 Quilters 4:30 pm Kids Club 6:15 pm Children's Choir 7:15 pm Bell Choir 7:30 pm NA Group	6:00 pm 20 Music Team 7:00 pm FA Group 7:30 pm Choir GA Group	21	11:00 am 22 Women's Potluck Brunch
Food Mission 23 9:00 am Worship: Chapel 9:45 am Pancake Breakfast 11:15 am Worship: Sanctuary	Newsletter Mailing 24 1:00 pm Staff 7:00 pm Session Boy Scouts Cub Den 7	7:30 pm 25 AA Group	9:00 am 26 Quilters 4:30 pm Kids Club 6:15 pm Children's Choir 7:15 pm Bell Choir 7:30 pm NA Group	6:00 pm 27 Music Team Preschool Dad's Night 7:00 pm FA Group 7:30 pm Choir GA Group	28 Wedding Rehearsal	4:30 pm 29 Wedding Christina Tolle and Kevin Ahlgren
9:00 am 30 Worship: Chapel 10:00 am Christian Ed 11:15 am Worship: Sanctuary 11:45 am Prayer Shawl Ministry 7:00 pm NSI Choir Concert	7:00 pm 31 Boy Scouts					



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

- Mary Ann Byers, Arlington Court
- Dick Christman, at home
- Cathie Cope, recuperating at home
- Harriett Curtis, Riverside
- Fred Ferris, at home
- Jeanne Fletcher, First Community Rehab
- Barbara Frautschi, at home
- Mary Harris, at home
- Gus Hoehl, Westminster HCC
- Kay Jones, at home
- Brita Knapp, recovering from Chemotherapy
- Johnny Murday, Becky Metzler's brother
- Hob Neff, at home
- Mark Nicholson, receiving treatment
- Peggy Pasko, recuperating at home
- Dorothy Pinney, at home
- Eric Rieve, Columbus Alzheimer Care Center
- Mary Thomas, at home
- Margaret Ward, Westminster Thurber HCC

Christian Sympathies To . . .

James and Shawn Sledge and family on the death of James' cousin, **John Ward**, on Wednesday, September 14, 2011 in North Carolina.

New Address

Mary and Fred Ferris
Mayfair Village
3011 Hayden Road, Apt. 321
Columbus, Oh 43235
New Telephone Number: 614-210-0178

Celebrating October Birthdays



Ellen Rennick	1	Vera Guffey	15
Dorothy Rout	2	Judy McMahon	15
Jill Hooley	3	Gabrielle Hicks	15
Martha Agler	4	Tricia Arrasmith	16
Jackie Smiley	4	Iain McCormick	17
Nell Burnette	6	Mary Ferris	18
Paul McCalla	7	Wendell Cornetet	20
Becky Elliott	8	Kevin Frick	20
Cindy McKay	9	Hilary Ells	21
Gillian Nobel	9	Sarah Clifton	22
Leah Johnson	11	David Ells	28
John Schlitt	12	Jim Perry	30
Barbara Frautschi	14	Kathie Bailey	31
Annabelle Marshall	14		

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 2011

Steve Hills
Terry McFadden
Ken Pierce
Jan Plas

Class of 2012

Mary Clifton
Amy Creighton
Ian Rennick
Melissa Schmidt

Class of 2013

Ginny Achtermann
Jim Bailey
Phyllis Miller
Kay Rieve

Deacons

Class of 2011

Louise Conner
Martha Hills
Marty Kuhn
Abbi Menke
Kyme Rennick

Class of 2012

George Ells
Allyson Engdahl
Paul McCalla
Stefanie Osborne

Class of 2013

Amy Johnson
Carol McFadden
Michael Schmidt

Cents-Ability Update

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

Our new program year just started and so far **\$31.55** 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 November Good News
Monday, October 17th