



CROSS CONNECTION

The Newsletter of Cottage Grove United Church of Christ
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150 Years and Going Strong



*No matter who you are
or where you are
on life's journey,
you'll find a home here!*

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CROP Walk Held October 11

CGUCC hosted the annual South Washington County CROP Walk on Sunday, October 11. Fifty-two persons walked, thirteen of them from CGUCC. Together they raised \$5,789; 75% of the money will go to Church World Service to provide both immediate and long-term assistance to hungry people around the world. The remaining 25% will go to the local Friends in Need Food Shelf. Many thanks to Doreen Barta who helped with the coordination of the entire event, and also coordinated our church's participation. Thanks also to those who helped here at the church and those who brought treats for the walkers.



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PRAY! PRAY! PRAY!

Nita Bertram; Daniel Bies; Eric Bies; Kathy Biscoe; Bill and Isabel Board; Ron Bonnevier; Bill Bothun; Beth Davies; Don Hanson; Kathy and Brad Huber; Chris Miller; Sandy Rabe; Jamie and Adam Roberts; Karen Spicer; Lucy Spicer; families facing unemployment issues; all those who have the flu.

Howard Biscoe (Rob Biscoe's brother); Dorothy Brown (Ashley & Luke Longmuir's great-aunt); Leo Buechler (former pastor); Abi Christopherson (Elaine Mitchell's friend); Cheryl (Joyce Fries' daughter); Diane (Carole Weitzel Biscoe's friend); Roxanne Ebarb; Kandy and David Hartson (Pastor Gold's mother and father); Brady Heschke (Marilyn Heschke's grandson); Gary Heuer (Rod Heuer's brother); Donna Johnson (Gary Afdahl's mother-in-law); Ken & Nora Krahn (missionaries); Denise Heschke Krech (Marilyn Heschke's daughter); Richard Lara (in prison); Margie Mattison, her husband, and family (Farmers' Market vendor); Fred Minser (Stan Barta's cousin); Gene Sauve; Mary Schmidt (Karen Schmidt's mother-in-law); Stordalen family (Pastor Gold's cousins); Mark Tinucci, Jr. (Sandy Rabe's grandson and Karen Schmidt's nephew); Elaine Torseth; Midge Youngquist's grandmother; our soldiers around the world; victims of recent earthquakes and tsunamis.

An Offering of Gold

Rev. Désirée
H. Gold



I am so sad! The Farmers' Market is done for the year! In the past week alone Ben and I have eaten soup made with potatoes, carrots, onions, and cilantro from the Farmers' Market; pasta with pesto that was made from basil purchased at the Farmers' Market; a stir fry made from eggplant, onions, and green beans from the Farmers' Market; Farmers' Market salmon with Farmers' Market potatoes on the side. For dessert we have had pie, bars, and apples, all of which we got from the Farmers' Market. Ben made salsa from Farmers' Market tomatoes and cilantro, and froze several Farmers' Market vegetables for later enjoyment. Our refrigerator is still stocked with lots of Farmers' Market goodies, and we have canned goods to enjoy into the winter. Soon, however, there will be no more fresh-from-the-field veggies, just-picked fruit, or still-warm desserts to enjoy. We will gradually go back to eating food that tastes like trucks rather than the dirt from which it was just harvested.

Granted, the final Farmers' Market was chilly, and the rainy weather the week before that was just plain nasty. But even on that rainy day, the fellowship was bright, and on the chilly day we simply bundled up (except for the kids in t-shirts eating ice cream cones that day) and enjoyed the fall atmosphere, resplendent with turning leaves, pumpkins, and apples. I enjoyed every "season" of the Farmers' Market, from the time we started in late spring to the time we closed in October. I loved seeing the selection of vegetables and other goods change as the months passed. While I have shopped at Farmers' Markets for years, this is the first time I have been so close to one and really had a chance to see what the growing season is like. (In California, Ben and I spent a lot of time at the local Farmers' Market, but the "growing season" there is rather a bit longer than it is in Minnesota.)

The wonderful bounty of God's great earth was hardly the only draw for me. I loved the fellowship with folks on the Farmers' Market team, with church members and others who frequented the market, with strangers who maybe stopped by once, and with the vendors. Sure, a lot of produce was sold, but there was a whole lot of chatting too. Some vendors, it seemed, spent more time gabbing than hawking their wares, but they appeared to love every minute of it and so did I. Truly a lot of "love for our neighbors" took place at the CGUCC Farmers' Market.

Then there was the surprising and wonderful gift of feeding the hungry. At some point during the summer, one of the vegetable vendors approached the Farmers' Market team because they had a bunch of leftovers that would go to waste if they did not give them away. Becky had the marvelous idea of taking the goods to Stone Soup thrift shop, and thus began an unexpected ministry to people in need in our community. Several other vendors began making donations at the end of market day each week, and Becky would take the goods over to Stone Soup Friday morning. (Look for an article and photo about this in an upcoming *South Washington County Bulletin*.) Clearly, Christ was leading us (vendors, market team, and all involved) in this endeavor. ("For I was hungry and you gave me food..." - Matthew 25:35)

(continued on next page)

It's Time to Think Christmas Wreaths

Christmas Wreath Sales will be October 18 through November 1, 2009. The prices will remain the same as last year: \$18 for a 25" wreath, \$20 for 25' length of balsam garland, \$20 for a centerpiece, and \$15 for a swag. The sign-up sheet is in the Gathering Room. All monies raised will go into the Missions Trip Fund for future mission trips. If there are any questions, please contact Midge Youngquist at 459-7110.



Road Ditch Cleanup

Once again it's time for that. The plan is to do it on October 24, meeting at the church at 9:00 a.m. for juice and rolls, and then to work. Please join us, as many hands make work light, and it doesn't take very long. It is a wonderful way to start the day. Remember to wear gloves, tough ones, as you don't want to get cut or scratched if you pick up broken glass. Any questions, call 459-9600.



Ruby Stratton

Fall Conference Youth Event

The Conference Youth Event will take place Oct. 16-18 at Pilgrim Point Camp in Alexandria. This fall's topic is "Pluralism: Putting God in More Than One Box." Several of our CGUCC youth will be attending with Bruce Fiedler chap-
eroning.



Policies and Procedures Manual Ready

The Policies and Procedures Team has reached the point where they have copies of the manual for anyone from the congregation to check out, read, and comment on. The Team plans to have all editing done and have the final copy ready for approval at the Annual Congregational Meeting in December. Please contact the office if you would like to read a copy.



Pastor Attending MN Conference Event

Pastor Désirée H. Gold will attend the Minnesota Conference UCC New Clergy Event on Thursday, October 22, at Olivet Congregational Church in St. Paul. The Conference has invited all clergy to a luncheon welcoming new clergy to the conference; there will be time to get acquainted with new colleagues over lunch, with a presentation following the meal.



(continued from previous page)

I am tremendously proud of the CGUCC Farmers' Market team and all of their good efforts. I am proud of the vendors, many of whom I got to know. And I am proud of all the good done by having a Farmers' Market at Cottage Grove United Church of Christ. We provide a service to the community, introduce folks to our church, support local farmers, provide local food (thus cutting down on carbon emissions), promote delicious and healthy eating, engage in endless fellowship, teach and learn from our youth...oh, and we feed the hungry too! I may be looking forward to the snow this winter, but I am also looking forward with great anticipation to next summer's CGUCC Farmers' Market. What a celebration of community and communion!

Grace and peace,
Pastor Gold

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of Christ**

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them off at the office.

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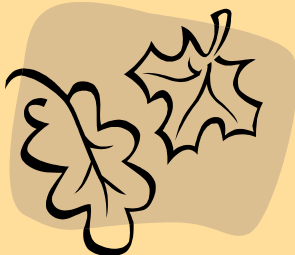
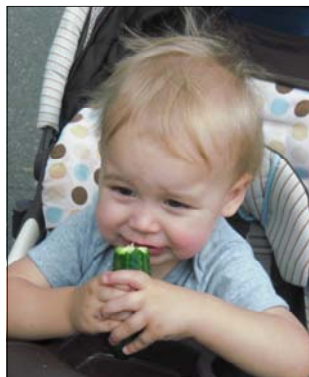
*Office Hours: Monday-Friday
9:00 a.m.—12:00 noon*



THANK YOU, ONE AND ALL,
FOR A GREAT YEAR
AT THE CGUCC FARMERS' MARKET!

October

- 1 - Marcus Cherry
Carl Manke
Craig Meyer
- 2 - Louis Janicek
Marshall Janicek
Benjamin Ratzlaff
- 3 - Al Goebel
Doug Nelson
- 5 - Bud Bloomquist
Bruce Sorensen
Carma Wilkinson
- 6 - Bud Kieffer
Chris Miller
Riley Utsch
- 8 - Erik Eshom
- 9 - Butch Pribnow
- 10 - Joyce Biscoe
- 11 - Tammy Brown
- 12 - Ron Bonnevier
- 15 - Don Welck
- 16 - Tim Bloomquist
- 17 - Karen Schmidt
- 18 - Don Biscoe
- 20 - Ally Frantzick
- 21 - Matthew Mohrlant
- 23 - Julie Christianson
- 25 - Stacy Frantzick
- 26 - Bob Howard
- 27 - Alexander Carr
- 29 - Amy Weiby
Colton Rabe
- 30 - Brenna Fritze
Jenni Huber
Jackie Mohrlant
John Palmer



Free Meal Served at *the Alley*

The Alley church invites anyone who has been financially affected by the current economy to a FREE MEAL (catered by TST Creative Catering) every Thursday from 5:30-6:30 p.m. at the Alley Church located on the corner of 80th Street and Jamaica Avenue in Cottage Grove. For more information or questions, please call 651-399-1851, or email us at meals@thealley.org.



Furniture Needed for Refugee Families

MCC Refugee Services once again has space to accept furniture donations! Our families are in great need of mattress/box spring sets, bed frames, sofas, dining room tables, dining room chairs, and coffee tables. You can contact Liz at 612-230-3221 or email at liz.leicht@mnchurches.org for location, a complete set of donation guidelines, and to set up a drop-off time.



Coat Drive
Keep a Child Warm

Small Adult and Children's Coats Needed

In order to hold the annual coat give-a-way for refugee families who have arrived this year, MCC Refugee Services will need more small adult and child sized coats. These can be brought to 122 Franklin Ave W. between the hours of 8:30 am-5:00 pm Monday through Friday. Coats are needed by October 20th. Ask for Liz Leicht!

Hunger Site at the U.N.

A "Hunger Site at the U.N." is now on the Internet. All you have to do is click a button and somewhere in the world some hungry person gets a meal to eat at no cost to you. Corporate sponsors pay for the food. Just go to the site listed below and click. No gimmicks, no tricks. You are only allowed one click per day so spread the word to others. www.hungersite.com



Anniversary Quilt

Sue Weiby reports that the quilt blocks for the 150th Anniversary Quilt are in the works. Watch for more information as the quilt takes shape.



Thank You

I would like to thank you from the bottom of my heart for all the prayers, phone calls and cards. Thank you also for the cards that you sent to me upon the death of Robert Frederickson (our daughter Donna's husband). Leo and I are doing well. And we are so glad to have such supporting friends in the Cottage Grove United Church of Christ. Again, thank you for remembering us still after so many years!



Alma N. Buechler

Gratitude Group Cookbooks

Just in time for fall hostess gifts and holiday giving, the Gratitude Group is selling their cookbooks in the Gathering Room after worship. Gratitude Group's funds are used for holiday giving to families in need, and for donations to families in crisis.



Coming Up in Worship

Sunday, October 18

9:00 a.m. Sunday School
10:15 a.m. Worship
11:30 a.m. Harvest Festival
Pot Luck Lunch

Sunday, October 25

9:00 a.m. Sunday School
10:15 a.m. Worship
11:30 a.m. Fellowship

Sunday, November 1

All Saints Day

Daylight Saving Time Ends
9:00 a.m. Sunday School
10:15 a.m. Worship with
Baptisms
11:30 a.m. Fellowship

Participating in Worship in October

Head Usher—Bob Janicek
Altar Team—Joyce Fries
Communion Preparation—
Bobbi Jo & Bob Janicek

Participating in Worship in November

Head Usher—Gary Thyren
Altar Team—Doreen Barta
Communion Preparation—
GeorgAnn Biscoe

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STOP!!
If you would rather not receive this news
letter, please call or send an e-mail, and we
will take you off our mailing list. Thanks!

Harvest Festival Pot Luck Lunch

Sunday, October 18th, 11:30 a.m. following Worship
Sponsored by Women's Fellowship



Bring your favorite dish to pass.
Beverage and rolls provided.

Please bring a food or dry goods item
for the Friends in Need Food Shelf.
Cash donations also accepted.

Let's share our bounty with those less fortunate.



There will be a prize awarded to the family bringing the most family members
to the luncheon.

Don't let the Vikings game keep you away. A time of fellowship is important too!

Questions? Please contact Elaine Mitchell
Phone: 651-459-6298, lainiesue@hotmail.com