## Sponsor a Child at Power Lab Vacation Bible School

This year we are asking members of the congregation to sponsor children who will be coming to Vacation Bible School by providing $\$ 5.00$ for each child to receive a Power Lab Gift Bag of the following items: 5 Bible memory buddies, goggles, key chain and name tag.

We are planning on 125 children to be in attendance.
If you would like to sponsor one or more children, please fill out the attached signature card with $\$ 5.00$ for each child and place in the offering plate or in Susan's office. Extra cards are available at the table in the narthex. You may sign the card or give the gift anonymously. The card will be placed in the bag.

If you wish to donate a specific item for VBS, you can do that by visiting the VBS display in the narthex and select an item listed on the flask. Simply remove the flask and attach the amount of money for that item and turn in to the Education office or purchase the food item and place it in Susan's office.

You will have an opportunity to fill out an envelope for sponsorship on Sunday morning, June 1st. A free-will offering will be taken that morning if you would like to give an amount for general expenses for VBS.

Thank you for your support in this important mission of First Church. V.B.S. will be held June 30-July 3.

God Bless YOU.



Sleuths everywhere agree that if we ask the right questions, we can solve the problems. So here is the question: What do Mary Ann Falk, Sammi and Kirby Joseph, Val Weber, Lois Gehres, Dave Thompson, Eleanor Souders, Jon and Nancy Rhoades, Michele and Mark McCleery, Cindy Duvall, Carol Taylor, Jan Mack, Shirley Jarvis, Jill Leatherman, Barb Showalter, Tonia and Mark Verville, Kyle and Christie Wendel, have in common? The solution: they all have taught in WoRM at the First United Methodist Church School.

The next question: Why would someone be willing to spend a month of Sundays trying to teach Bible stories and Christian beliefs to children ages 6-12 years?

When the sleuth posed that question to the teachers, he not only got the answers, he got answers loaded with passion and zeal. "I love teaching in the Chapel!" responded Lois Gehres. "We get to know the kids so well as we share the Bible stories." Lois went on to share the joy she felt during the Doubting Thomas lesson when she had the youngsters fall backward into the arms of a classmate and adult. Jon Rhoades had a similar reaction. "It's amazing how the children want to participate and how much they can absorb at a young age. "
"By the end of the month, kids really know the verses and have grasped the concepts," is how Val Weber described her thoughts. Val, who has been teaching since the inception of WoRM five years ago, likes that depth of
understanding that the chiA dren gain in First Churches' WOrkshop Rotational Model. She, like the other teachers, is most rewarded when the lesson allows the students to actively interact with the Bi ble and to apply Christian principles to their own lives.
The sleuth knows that all you teachers - the ones this article names as well as those of you who are unnamed - know exactly what Jesus meant when he said, "Let the little children come unto me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these" (Mark 10:13-14) The sleuth encourages every First Church member to take time to learn who our church school teachers are, and to thank them for what they do.

## Wmens

Ministries
We seek to be disci-
ples of Jesus Christ
by engaging, encouraging and equipping women to glorify God through worship, Christian fellowship, service and missions at home and abroad.

# Circle Meetings 

Lydia Circle-June 10 noon-Kitchenette Devotions-J ana Thompson Hostess-J une Shriver

Martha/ Ruth Circle-June 18-1:30 p.m. Krout Program—Bonnie Wallace

Dorcas Circle-Lune 18-10:00 a.m. Krout

The 2008 Flower Calendar is on the church office door, so it you care to reserve that special date. Open dates: June 29; July 13 ; October $19 \& 26$; and November 9, \& 16


We are looking for someone who will coordinate the Wednesday night dinners beginning this fall. After many years of great service, Ike would like a break. Please see Jana or Susan if you are interested in this ministry.

## The Summer Rotation

People Who Made a Difference Judges 4:4-15, J eremiah 1:48, Luke 7:1-10, John 4:5-41 The Point of the Lesson People of faith made a difference. Through the stories of people of faith we learn more about God. As people of faith we can respond to God and make a difference.


The virtue:
Individuality Discovering who you are meant to be so you can make a difference on.

Bible verse:
"Many (people)...believed in him because of the woman's testimony." John 4:39


Colin Murral, Jena Covey and Michael Joseph in Joseph and Son Hardware experiencing the senses.

## Weekday Preschool

Mrs. Bagley's $4 / 5$ year old class Alexis Bowen, Jamie Burenga, Kirsten Dunning, Sammy Exman, Joshua Haller, Callum Hotmire, Nathan J ackson, Tyson Jackson, Kendall Klausing, Matthew Lautzenheiser, Evan Mongold, Preston Phillips, Jacob Place, Connor Pratt, Macy Purmort, Eli Roberts.

Mrs. Hotmire's Pre-Kindergarten A.M. Class

Hannah Baker, Adam Berynabm Jake Bowersock, Adam Beryman, Drake Howard, Evan Knittle, Clayton Leeth, Xander McComas, Anne Mendenhall, Alyssa Murral, Micah Rager, Jessie Reynolds, Zachary Schott, Rachel Spath, Owen Treece, Weiss.

## Mrs. Hotmire's Pre-Kindergarten P.M. Class

Jacob Allen, Mason Comment, Kalen Etzler, Kaden Hire, Autumn Howell Madison Langdon, Andrew Li, Levi Martz

## The Preschool Board would like to thank the "Preschool Patrons" for their generous donation of $\$ 884.00$ to the Preschool. Books, teaching aids for the classrooms, replacement of some well used toys, and new toys were purchased. <br> Thank you again for your very generous support of the Preschool.



## Hello FUMC family!

I just graduated from Miami University. Next year, I will be working with Campus Crusade for Christ, where I will be doing full-time ministry in Rome, Italy! I am currently in the process of contacting people to build a team of supporters where we, together, can reach Italian students for Christ. I look forward to talking with you in person to share more of my heart on how the Lord has called me back to this beautiful city, and how we could be partners in ministry next year in Rome!

## 0ur Church Family

## Birth: Claire Elise Stoller

May 7, 2008
Amy (Bradford) \& Tom Stoller
Death: Lyle Dougal
April 30, 2008

Thank you to Jeanne Zeigler and ladies for coordinating our 50th Anniversary Party on Saturday, May 10th.
Gloria and John Ruddock
50th ANMIVERSARY


$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { Vacation Bible School } 2008 \text { Registration Form } \\
& \text { First United Methodist Church } \\
& \text { J efferson at Central, Van Wert, Ohio } \\
& \text { 419-238-0631 } \\
& \text { Family Night } \\
& \begin{array}{|c|c}
\hline \text { J une 30-J uly } 3
\end{array} \\
& \text { 9-11:50 a.m. 2, 6-8 p.m. }
\end{aligned}
$$

Male/Female Age $\qquad$ City: $\qquad$

Child's name $\qquad$
Street Address: $\qquad$
Home telephone: $\qquad$
Phone number where you can be reached during VBS $\qquad$
Date of birth: $\qquad$ Last school grade completed: $\qquad$
Parent/caregiver's name $\qquad$
Allergies or other medical conditions: $\qquad$
Home church: $\qquad$
I give permission to use my child's image for advertizing. $\qquad$

Lab Crew (for church use only: $\qquad$

## 2008 ADULT METHODI ST TRAVEL SCHEDULE

JUNE 19: PICNIC in Fountain Park with the Church Dining Room as back up. 5:00 p.m. Hamburgers and hotdogs, buns. condiments, and beverages provided. Potluck for other dinner items. entertainment and cost. Rev. Stass to speak to us on some religious related subject of his choice.

JULY 24: WORLD WAR II MUSEUM AND LUNCH, Auburn, IN.
Leave Parsonage parking lot at 10:00 AM, and return to Van Wert around 5:00 PM.
AUGUST 28: THE BUDDY HOLLY STORY at the Wagon Wheel Theatre in Warsaw, IN. Lunch at Boat House Restaurant. Depart 11:00 a.m. arrive back in Van Wert around 6:00 p.m.

SEPTEMBER 18: FALL GOSPEL CONCERT at Bearcreek Farms in the Bryant, IN area. The show features the Blackwood Brothers Quartet hosted by the Clay Family. Depart Parsonage parking lot at 11:00 AM, Lunch at 12:Noon and show at 2:00 P.M. Return to Van Wert around 5:00 PM.

SEPTEMBER 20: PANCAKE and SAUSAGE DAY served 8-11:AM
Proceeds split between the VW Senior Citizens Building Fund and our Church Landscaping project. J Jeanne Zeigler will coordinate.

OCTOBER 9: TBA
DECEMBER 13 : OHIO NORTHERN UNIVERSITY CHRISTMAS MATINEE SHOW at the Lima Civic Center Dinner afterward at a local restaurant.

## The Youth Stuff

***Note the
Summer time change***
JR High Youth Group
Sundays in the Youth Room 6:00-7:30pm.
SR High Youth Group
Sundays in the Youth Room 8:00-10:00pm
Cell Group Wednesdays at the Exmans-440 South Ave. 7:30-9:00pm.
June 1 No Youth Group
(Graduation/ Parties!)
June 4 Sr . Hi. Cell Group
June 8 No Youth (Exmans are at Annual Conference!)
June 12 No Cell Group those going to ICHTHUS we will meet and pack!
June 12-15 ICHTHUS
Wilmore, Kentuckyarrive home on Sunday by 6 pm .
June 18 SR Hi Cell Group
June 22 Summer Youth Group Note the summer time change! June 25 No Cell Group- (Jon \& Lesa's Wedding Anniversary! June 29 Summer Youth Group Note the summer time change! June 30-July 3-VBS-help out if you can-this is our opportunity to give back a little on the $2^{\text {nd }}$ we will be hosting a fun night event for the Bible School kids...plan on participating- we need you. We will be in charge of games! The time for this is $6-8 \mathrm{pm}$ at the park! J

## Youth Group info and updates for June!

Teens and Parents and Everyone else,
Whaddup my Peeps! We have a lot going on this month. Can you believe it is Summer?...Yes...Summertime! This month we come to the biggest event of the year...ICHTHUS! In case you missed it there still might be time for you to get in on it. Ichthus is June 12$15^{\text {th }}$. What is Ichthus? Ichthus is an incredible 5 day 4 night event of primitive camping (tents, porta-potties, and no electric) that will change the way you look at God and they way you look at being a Christian. It is located in Wilmore, Kentucky. In this event there are concerts all day long of the best in Christian Music. The concerts start with worship each morning and finishing each evening. This does not give you the whole idea...there are also great speakers each day, as well as, some really interesting seminars for teenagers on what it is like to be a Christian. Still, this doesn't give you the whole picture. Ichthus is is about relationships, your relationship with your youth group but also with Christ. I first went to Ichthus when I was in High School but I also kept involved in it while I was in Seminary at Asbury Theological Seminary. (Asbury helped to start Ichthus years ago.) Check it out yourself on www.ichthusfestival.org . We will have a great time there and it will be something you will always remember.

## HOW CAN I HELP WITH ICHTHUS?

If you're thinking you would like to help...read on...How can I help? Well, here are some ways: 1) In order for the kids to eat and have some shelter we have a big circus tent that we are renting to provide a place for us to meet and eat (this tent is $20 \times 40$ so it is huge) the cost to rent this tent for the week is $\$ 325$. It would be great if some/ one of you would like to sponsor the kids and give towards this tent. Ask me if you would like to be a part of this ministry to the kids. 2) Another way is to help by providing some of the food/paper items that are needed. Check outside the sanctuary at either entrance/exit for the Ichthus tents and take a tag (each tag will have items on it take one, two etc. ) then bring the item(s) back and give them to Jon. 3) Give a partial scholarship. (There are a few kids that have a hard time meeting the costs of trips and your gifts can help them go.) 4) Lastly, pray for us that God really moves and the kids are drawn into a closer relationship with him.

Philippians 4:13

## Jon

## Spiritual Formation Corner from Jana



## Sacred Space

## A time of prayer and meditation for

 women of all ages.Sunday, June 22 1:30-3:00 p.m.
This month we will focus on the reviving elements of God's living water.... Jesus answered, "If you knew the generosity of God and who | am, you would be asking me for a drink, and | would give you fresh, living water." John 4.10 (The Messge)

Come for refreshment and rest!

## Summer Bible Studies-

Women \& Men-all ages
The Wednesday, 4:00 p.m. Women's group will move to Wednesday mornings (9:30 a.m.) after school is out. They are studying David. Contact Eleanor Souders, 419-2393631

A new Women's study group will begin on Thursday, June 19 at 8:00 a.m. This group will study Phillip Yancy's book on Prayer. Contact Jana Thompson, 419-2380631 Please sign up outside Jana's office or call Jana so we have enough books
Currently we have two studies for men on Wednesdays
7:00 a.m.-Breakfast for a Buck group
8:00 a.m.-Studying Matthew
Both groups welcome any men to join them.
All Bible Studies are open to both members and non-members of our church.

## For the Twenty somethings... <br> We will study Galatians this summer on Jana's back porch. <br> So if you're home from college, if you're working hard, if you're bored and if you want some great discussion and hang time-please join us on Tuesdays, 7:30 pm at 8293 Bergner Road. Please let Jana know if you're interested. Starting date—June 17th.

## Sunday morning studies

Hal Hunt Class-Dining Room. Dave Zeigler, teacher. International Bible Studies: Chronicles, Daniel, Nehemiah, Ezra, Haggai Pastor's Class-Conference room $3: 16$ by Max Lucado


Finances through March
\$528,328.00 OPERATING BUDGET FOR 2008

| $\$$ | $37,924.74$ | Operating receipts for April |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $\$$ | $35,339.80$ | Operating expenses for April |
| $\$$ | $154,582.43$ | Operating receipts year to date |
| $\$$ | $165,954.82$ | Operating expenses year to date |
| $\$$ | $23,461.69$ | Capital Campaign receipts for April |
| $\$$ | $52,200.12$ | Capital Campaign receipts year to date |

\$ 1,103,122. Mortgage balance as of May 01, 2008
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT: Everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or fields for my sake will receive a hundred times as much and will inherit eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and many who are last will be first. Matthew 19: 29 and 30

## Long Term Prayer List

CANCER: Phil and Amy Cross, Delores Darwood, Jim Dunaway, Christie Ellis, Mike Hiegel, Katherine Hoverman, Wendy Ross, Sara Rupert, Rick Snyder, Tom VanScyoc, Pat Winicker.
OTHER CONCERNS: Kevin Agler, Krizine Cross, Cassondra Davis, Carol Dickson, Tom and Bev Disson, Merle Fox, Gene Fronefield,

The Prayer Team asks for your help in keeping our list up-todate. Contact Arla Allen or anyone on the Prayer Team with your updates. Thank you! Denny Howell, Ben and Tricia Hubble, Baby Lillian, Paul Miller, Ricky Miller, Carolyn Placke, Stan and Deb Pratt, Linda Shepherd, Tammy Sidle, Rebecca Strickler, Rose Thomas, Raymond Geisman, Sara Wilson.
MILITARY: Lidale Czerepak, Caleb Kreischer, Nick Marvin, Tyler Mills.
MISSIONARIES: Gaston \& Jeanne NtamboCongo, Jose Luise Ramos and family, refugees of war, fires and storms, governments in Iraq, Iran, Tibet.

## 05/04/08

Offering for week \$9,025.94
Building Campaign 6,862.62
Worship
8:00-98 9:15-39 10:45-230
Sunday School - 162
Childcare - 10
05/11/08
Offering for week \$10,247.09
Building Campaign 7,598.33
Worship
8:00-127 9:15-40 10:45-258
Sunday School - 148
Childcare-17
05/ 18/08
Offering for week $\$ 10,691.21$
Building Campaign 10,035.45
Worship
8:00-97 9:15-33 10:45-228
Sunday School - 166
Childcare - 11
05/25/08
Offering for week $\$ 6646.36$
Building Campaign 2586.00 Worship 8:00-94 9:15-28 10:45-247
Sunday School-152
Childcare- 10
EcoPhones $\$ 6.70$
Penny Stack Building Fund Project from S.S. children $\$ 155.45$

## Capital Fund Report

Our Forward in Faith pledge total has risen to $\$ 724,804.19$. We sincerely thank everyone who pledged during this campaign. This total, over the next three years, will bring us very near eliminating the debt. Please continue to pray for the future of the church.


First United Methodist Church

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { TGME } \\ & \text { GTRS } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} 2008 \\ C H U \end{gathered}$ | RCHC |  |  | $E V$ | $N T$ |
| See side bar 1 No Youth | 7:00 Praise Band 7:30 Adult Cell Group | 8:30 Staff Meeting 10:30 Prayer Group Wesley UM 7:00 Cooperative Ministries- | $\begin{aligned} & \text { See Side Bar } 4 \\ & \text { 7:00 Choir Party- } \\ & \text { Okuley's Home } \end{aligned}$ | $5$ | $\begin{array}{r} 6 \\ \text { 6:00 Bread/Bowl } \end{array}$ | 7 |
| see side bar $\quad 8$ No Youth | 7:00 Praise Band <br> Annual Conference | 8:30 Staff Meeting 10 <br> 10:30 Prayer Group 12:00 Noon Lydia Circle Annual Conference | See Side Bar 11 <br> Ichthus-Youth <br> 7:00 Trustee Meeting <br> Annual Conference | Ichtus-Youth $12$ <br> Annual Conference | Ichtus-Youth 6:00 Bread/Bowl | I chtus-Youth |
| See side bar 15 Ichtus-Youth | 7:00 Praise Band 7:30 Adult Cell Group | 8:30 Staff Meeting 17 10:30 Prayer Group | See side bar 18 <br> 10:00 Dorcas Circle <br> 1:30 Martha/Ruth Circle | 8:00 Women's Bible Study 6:30 Finance Mtg. | $\begin{array}{r} 20 \\ \text { 6:00 Bread/Bowl } \end{array}$ | 21 |
| See side bar 22 9:45 VBS Staff Meeting 1:30-3:00 Sacred Space | $23$ <br> 7:00 Praise Band | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 8:30 Staff Meeting } 24 \\ & \text { 10:30 Prayer Group } \end{aligned}$ | See side bar 25 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 8:00 Women's Bible } \\ & \text { Study } \end{aligned}$ | $27$ <br> 6:00 Bread/Bowl | 28 |
| see side bar 29 <br> 9:45 VBS Crew Leaders Meeting | 9-11:50 Vacation Bible School <br> 5:30 Preschool Board Meeting 7:00 Praise Band 7:30 Adult Cell Group |  |  |  |  |  |

> sossep looyps kepuns-08:6 ssed loous Kepuns oz:ot
> $\begin{aligned} & \text { 6-7:30 Jr. High Youth- } \\ & \text { 8-10:00 Sr. High Youth }\end{aligned}$
Wednesday Schedule: $7 \& 8$ a.m. Men's Bible Study 4:00 Women's Bible Study
7:30-9:00 Sr. High Cell Group-J on Exman's Home


First United Methodist Church


| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Carol Sidle Jen Parrett <br> Susan \& Dave Mathew Donna \& Ron Stuckey Marilyn \& Stan Cress Eleanor \& Dean McOmber | Mary Gear Sharon Witten <br> Betty \& Kenneth Anspach Marilyn \& Steve Bebout | Vera Crow <br> Doyle Poling <br> Sandra \& Bob Scheidt | Ric Kelly Dan Young J acob Covey <br> Kent \& Kim McCracken | Karen Kemler <br> Rick Welch | Louise Hartwig Dick Mercer Chris Covey Chris Drake Colby Miller Brittani Price Nedderman Deb \& Lonnie <br> Linda \& Dennis Schumm | Kerry \& Adam Stedke |
| Meg Swander J ill DeWert J alen McCracken Jody \& Chris Wilson <br> Louise \& Fred Hartwig Al \& Dorothy Arnold | Irma Flickinger <br> J anet Rickner Janet Purk <br> Kristen Hoverman Derek Strick Finley Foster Kara \& Eric Amstutz <br> Emily \& Christopher Hass | Susan Burchfield Sarah J ackson Preston Phillips <br> Mandy \& Sean Perkins | Teresa Shaffer <br> 11 <br> J eff Tomlinson Gabe Pollock Carly Rollins | Matt Taylor 12 Karlin Dunlap Kevin Agler Nancy \& Joe Beckman Mollie \& Mathew Crummey | Ashley Long 13 <br> Carl Foust Larry Mengerink Elaine J ackson Marilyn \& Tony | Kim Russell Kristy Russell Brady Dunlap Gabriella Pool Kris \& J im Snyder $14$ |
| Wilma Snyder <br> Natalie Taylor <br> Danielle Kline <br> Connor Massillo <br> J ustin Hamberg <br> Kathy \& Chuck Steele | Livia Butter 16 <br> Cayden Karl <br> Nathan Lichtle <br> Lennon Blevins <br> Kay \& Roger Okuley Michele \& Jeremy Daeger | Wayne Compton June Shriver Mickey McConahay Amy Stemen Katey Gamble Andrew Deitemeyer Kendra \& Tom Kalkreuth Barb \& Gary Showalter Kris \& William Seward J ill \& Robert Coleman | Sue Corle J acob Strick Cloey Spry | Raeh McCracken <br> Eric Amstutz Zach Stoller Kristi Jones Chloe Brake Angela Myers <br> Sandie \& Bill Matthews J oyce \& Alan Morris Karen \& Richard Smith | Bud Stamper 20 <br> Pat J ohnson Kathie Hitchcock J. R. Price <br> Jean \& J ohn Auld J ill \& Kent Smelser | Becky Staas Bob Sowers Kent Long Kathy Bohyer |
| Fran Baum Brad Owens Camille Frysinger <br> Susan \& Marty Burchfield Denise \& J im Davis Shanann \& Patrick J ackson | Dennis Miller <br> Ken \& Karen McClain Cindy \& Brad Dickson Storm \& Matt Mercer | Kathy steele 24 <br> Scott Mills <br> Nathan Stevens <br> Beth \& Rich Lininger <br> Val \&J im Weber <br> Amanda \& Adam Osenga | Dave Watkins <br> Chandler Hurless <br> Lesa \& J on Exman Barb \& Doug Loudenslager | Roy J eknavorian,sr 26 <br> David Cummings Joel Penton Zach Smart Kayla Krites | Julie Gamble 27 J asmine Diemer <br> Craig \& Renee Thatcher Jim \& Tracy Loughrie | Sammy Holes, Jr. 28 Chris Mills <br> Ann \& Bill Harvey Sue \& J ack Corle Peggy \& J oel Penton |
| Bill Wermer Jack Corle Bill Matthews Brock Thatcher | J erry Dohoney 30 <br> Bryn Schumm Kristen Gillespie Riley J ones Hannah McCleery <br> Susan \& J ohn Wehage Rich \& Isabel Riley Erin \& Ben Culler <br> Erin \& Ronald Kennedy, Jr. |  |  |  |  |  |

