

NEW HOPE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Good News

Winter Issue/2011

9825 Gore Church Road, Logan,
Ohio 43138

Directions: 93 North to Gore Church Rd.



Recently, I read an article by Leonard Sweet in which he asks how many of our New Year's resolutions are still in effect. He was writing about ten days into the month, so after this amount of time, the answer is probably that they are almost all broken. Sweet's point is that we are pretty good at making resolutions, but we come up short in the area of resolve. That is, we don't have much in the way of follow-through.

Part of the problem is that most of our resolutions really amount to self-improvement projects aimed at getting more exercise, eating a healthier diet, or otherwise showing some self-discipline and taking control of our lives. We want to make changes that will help us, improve us, and bring us good feelings about ourselves.

What if we gave up trying to make ourselves feel good (we could do that for Lent, couldn't we?) and instead resolved that in 2011 we would all live lives that make God feel good? That would recognize the obvious point that it is God who is really in control of our lives. If we are going to do that, there are four areas that we need to focus on:

First: Truth. The Christian should not only know right from wrong but live in the truth because God is the author of all truth, and this requires the Christian to live a life that reflects God to the world through the imitation of Jesus Christ. The best guide to this life is found in the Bible and the plans God has for us that are revealed in the Scriptures.

Second: Grace. We need to understand the difference between cheap grace and costly grace. Cheap grace means that we take the attitude that once our sins are forgiven, grace has done all it needs to do in our lives. As Dietrich Bonhoeffer says, "cheap grace is grace without discipleship." Costly grace is grace that leads us on to discipleship, that is, a life of service to others and spreading the Word to them.

Third: Love. Christ's love is perfect, unconditional love. We are to strive toward that, even though we recognize that we will not achieve it in this life. This type of love is the exact opposite of self-centeredness. Instead, it is focused outward on God and neighbor.

Fourth: Servanthood. Jesus asks us to be "good and faithful servants," not just of him, but of each other. This is a challenge in our society, which encourages us to value ourselves above others. Jesus, however, expects that we will put others ahead of ourselves.

If you will examine these four areas closely, you will see that they are all interrelated. Taken together, they provide a way for us to live under God's control in the coming year. By the way, don't forget about losing weight or your exercise program, they are worthy goals. But set your sights higher, and resolve to live for God in addition to those other resolutions.

CHURCH



HISTORY



(See Mark 10:25)

01-10-2011

BEFORE YOU TRY, I SHOULD LET YOU KNOW THAT IT'S SUPPOSED TO BE A CAMEL THROUGH THE EYE OF A NEEDLE

If you have an idea for the subject of a history column or are just curious, please write it down and give it to Rose Ann Edwards in church or as an email to andy@newhopelogan.org



<i>Cheri Bauman</i>	<i>December 22</i>	<i>Barb D'Onfrio</i>	<i>December 21</i>
<i>James D'Onfrio</i>	<i>January 21</i>	<i>Rose Ann Edwards</i>	<i>January 9</i>
<i>Hannah Ellinger</i>	<i>January 2</i>	<i>Deidre Goss</i>	<i>December 1</i>
<i>Anna Marie Hanning</i>	<i>December 25</i>	<i>Francis Hanning</i>	<i>January 27</i>
<i>Carolyn Harris</i>	<i>December 27</i>	<i>Janet Harris</i>	<i>January 18</i>
<i>Jerry Stimmel</i>	<i>December 1</i>	<i>Lori Hoffman</i>	<i>January 17</i>
<i>Valerie Snyder</i>	<i>December 22</i>	<i>Sarah Inboden</i>	<i>December 8</i>
<i>Debbie Starr</i>	<i>December 21</i>		



Walk to
Emmaus
THE UPPER ROOM

**For more information on Emmaus,
Ask Pastor David or Greg Rush**

The Gospel of Luke relates the story of Christ joining two friends on the road from Jerusalem to Emmaus, walking together and sharing their hearts' deepest concerns. The risen Christ walks with them and explains the scriptures: how it was ordained that Christ should suffer and so enter his glory. The illuminating climax of this heartwarming experience comes when Christ takes bread and blesses it, he then breaks it and gives it to them. At that moment, the eyes of the two are opened, they recognize him as the risen Christ, and they rush back to Jerusalem to tell the others. (Luke 24:13-35).

The above story provides the image for Walk to Emmaus, an Upper Room program that calls forth and restores Christian discipleship. The Walk to Emmaus, a three day experience, takes a New Testament look at Christianity as a lifestyle. The highly structured weekend is designed to strengthen and invigorate the faith of Christian people and, through them, their families, their congregations, and the world in which they live. Emmaus combines the efforts of laity and clergy to renew the church.

How do I attend? A person who has experienced the Walk to Emmaus sponsors you. This frees you from any personal responsibilities that might distract you while on the experience, and undergirds your 72 hour experience with prayer and other expressions of God's love.

What happens after? Cleopas and his companion immediately returned to tell other disciples about their encounter with Christ. A regular, ongoing time of sharing together our journey with Christ is part of the follow-up to the experience. A monthly celebration open to all encourages discipleship. Weekly, small-group meetings are open to all persons wanting to grow in accountability for their relationship with Christ.

What is the purpose? Emmaus exists to develop Christian leaders for the local church and the world. The approach seriously considers the model of Christ's servanthood and encourages Christ's disciples to act in ways appropriate to being "a servant of all."

Where does it take place? A community of Christians from a variety of churches provides a place, leadership, and all the support necessary to conduct the Walk to Emmaus weekend. The contact person listed below will gladly help you learn more.

What is Chrysalis?



"Chrysalis" is the name chosen for the youth version of The Walk to Emmaus, its parent movement, because it symbolizes the spiritual growth that is essential between adolescence and adulthood. That growth is as crucial for youth as the cocoon is for the caterpillar. It is that precious time of nurturing a person's faith for discipleship.

Chrysalis "Flights" (for 10th through 12th graders) are three-day events. This three-day spiritual renewal time provides an opportunity for you to learn more about faith, to experience Christian love and support, and to make new faith commitments. The point is to inspire, challenge and equip you for a closer friendship with Christ and for Christian action at home, church, school, and community.

Chrysalis lifts up a way for you to enjoy Christ's friendship and love and to be Christ's friend and partner in the world. The three days focus on God's grace, your experience with Christ as friend, what it means to be the body of Christ, and giving love to a needy world.

Chrysalis is open to young people of any Christian denomination. The ages include upper high school students (ages 15-18 and completed 9th grade) We invite you to join in a flight or journey, an exciting three days of experiencing God's love in a fresh new way. Spread your wings. It's a new day!

We are reaching out to you to ask for your help with the Chrysalis Flight coming up in February. The Boy's Chrysalis Flight will be over President's Day Holiday Weekend (February 19-21).

Additional information is available at the Southern Ohio Emmaus Website: www.southernohioemmaus.com

If you have any questions, Members of the Chrysalis Board would be happy to talk with you or send you further information.

Call Lynda Fink, Lay Director at 740-394-2939 / Lynda@hapcap.org or Betty Clark, Board Chair at 740-664-5040 / bwclark@nelsonvilletv.com

New Hope's Communications Committee Welcomes You!

Would you like to join the New Hope Communications Committee?

Our mission is to effectively use the many forms of communications available to spread the word and make the worship services, ministries and programs of New Hope United Methodist Church available and welcoming to all people. We are a new committee with much to do in the areas of web content, brochures, news articles, advertisements, bulletin boards, newsletters, fliers, emailing and photography for New Hope.

Join Us: Our group meets the third Tuesday of every month at 7:30 pm. All are welcome to attend our meetings and contribute their ideas and abilities to our mission.

Committee Members

If you have questions, comments, ideas, contributions or would like to join us for coffee at our next meeting, please contact us:

Andy Ellinger - andy@newhopelogan.org
Greg Rush - greg@newhopelogan.org
Cheri Bauman - cheri.bauman@gmail.com

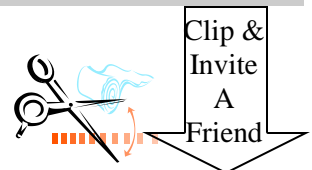


"Then the Lord answered me and said:
Write the vision; make it plain on tablets,
so that a runner may read it."

(Habakkuk 2:2)



Make a Friend, Be a Friend, Bring a Friend to Church



.... A Place for Bible Study

Wednesday Evenings @ 7:30 pm.
This weekly study of the Bible aims not only to increase one's spiritual knowledge, but through discussions of life applications to nurture Christians to become better disciples.

ALL ARE WELCOME!

New Hope Worship

Sunday School: 9:15 am
Church Service: 10:30 am

Church (740) 394-2705
www.newhopelogan.org

join New Hope Logan UMC on facebook
www.facebook.com/newhopeloganUMC

We would love to include your contributions so please submit any comments, articles or photos if you would like to have them included in the newsletter.

Email: andy@newhopelogan.org
(or just hand it to Andy Ellinger at church)