



Issue 04-09  
Jul/Aug 2009

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**From Your Pastor's Desk**

As you know, our church is collecting items to send to our men and women serving in Iraq. This is especially emotional for me. Josh continues to serve in Iraq as part of his National Guard duty. For me it is a strange combination of intense pride and overwhelming fear. In an age of self-centered and self-indulgent children, how can I not be proud when Josh chose sacrifice to country over the *it's all about me* life style? How can I not be frightened about what sacrifice he may be called to make in the line of duty?

The philosophy of the National Guard is of *citizen warriors*. The Guard is comprised of brave men and women of all walks of life, including students, doctors, farmers, teachers and ministers. Most of the time they go about their lives just like you and I. But during times of national emergencies they sacrifice their time and sometimes their lives by putting on the uniform and serving their country. These brave men and women deserve our praise and our thanks. They are also an example of how we should be living our lives.

Perhaps it is time for us Christians to demonstrate this level of commitment to the Kingdom of God. In the sixth chapter of Ephesians Paul calls us to be *citizen Christians*. We are to prepare ourselves for Christian service by putting on the armor of Christ including the belt of truth, the breastplate of righteousness, the shield of faith, the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the spirit. *Truth, righteousness, faith, spirit and salvation* is the uniform of God that enables us to serve others.

Like the National Guard, citizen Christians come from all walks of life. But at a moment notice we may be asked to sacrifice our time and perhaps our lives to service in the Kingdom. This is a far cry from consumer Christians who constantly cry out "what is the church doing for me" or the *it's all about me* Christian who only serves when it is convenient or the *I got to be right* Christian who will only fellowship with Christians who agree with them on issues of doctrine and politics.

**Articles for September – October are due to me by August 25.**

You can email them to Eileen Fletcher or put them in the Echo box in the foyer of the Education Building. Email address is on back of this newsletter

Continued on page 2

**Echoes  
From the  
Past**

*I will  
sing of  
the  
Lord's  
great  
love for-  
ever;  
with my  
mouth I  
will  
make  
your  
faithful-  
ness  
known  
through  
all gen-  
erations.*

*Psalm  
89:1*

**From the  
Pastor's  
Desk  
Con't**

**By Harold Marcum**

**June, 1940**

(As it appeared in the Echo. During the months of July and August the Early Worship services will be conducted on every alternating Sunday morning at 8:00 a.m. Will the faithful members and friends preferring these early services conducted in the German language please take notice of this announcement.

When this copy of the "ECHO" appears in your home, your Pastor and his family will have entered upon a period of vacation granted by the Church Council and extending over the greater part of the summer season. Mr. Cornelius Loew, a candidate for the Evangelical ministry, will have assumed his duties in the service of our church.

For the observance of "Flag Day" our church was supplied with "Old Glory" complete with stand, by Mr. Lou Wittman, a member of St. John's Church.

Mrs. Amelia Meiner called the Ladies Adult Bible Class to order and the Pastor led us in prayer. The President announced that the class had been requested to serve at the Annual Picnic of the Bible School in the Stahlheber Woods on June 23rd with Elizabeth Schneider, Mathilda Stapleton and Carrie Sciutti assisting.

Josh will spend twelve months in Iraq. No doubt about it, it is physically and mentally challenging. He is learning to depend on his fellow soldier for his very life. All men and women serving in a war-zone learn what it means to sacrifice for a cause far greater than themselves. Wouldn't it be great if Christians showed the same level of commitment to The Kingdom of God? To paraphrase President John F. Kennedy: *Ask not what First St. John UCC is doing for you, ask what are you doing for God at First St. John UCC.*

Sincerely,  
Sam

**June, 1950**

The meeting of the members of the Corner Class was held in the Social Rooms with Mrs. Gretchen Gray presiding. A song service was conducted with Mrs. Lucille Metzger serving as pianist. The group voted to abide by the custom of former years and omit their July meeting. The August meeting is to be arranged in the nature of a family party, the site to be selected by the committee: Mildred Henes and Eva Mahler.

The members of the Board met in the Social Rooms on June 12th with Mr. Kenneth Brown presiding. Due to several activities planned it was suggested that the date of the Daily Vacation Bible School be changed to the weeks beginning July 24th and July 31st.

The June meeting of the Ladies Aid was held in the Social Rooms with Mrs. Elizabeth Schneider presiding. Mrs. Ruth Brown was in charge of the devotional portion of the program and assisted by Mrs. Irma Herold at the piano.

Mrs. Hilda Brown announced that twenty pre-school packets were ready for shipment. A new ruling has been put into effect whereby it is necessary to send eight cents shipping charge toward the shipping of every pound of material sent overseas.

**July/  
August  
Birthdays**



*Jesus said,  
"My Father  
is glorified by  
this, that  
you bear  
much fruit  
and be-  
come my  
disciples."*

*John 15:8*

July		August	
1	Ann Wheelright	2	Cody Proffitt
3	Rick Ingram	4	Tammy Proffitt
	Aaron Hamburg	5	Clyde Irwin
4	June Pierce	7	Walter Allspach
7	Lois Apgar	8	Caroline Tewell
8	Harry Scherzinger	10	Harriet Ingram
	Elaine Thompson	11	Jake Stitsinger
10	Alison Miller	18	Marge Rowland
12	Jack Bachman		Shirley Hartleb
14	Bob Kerby, Jr	19	Harriet Stitsinger
17	Jerri Sullivan	20	Kathy Reece
19	Jenny Mann		Elaine Weiss
20	Doris Conyers	25	Elmer Weiss
22	Heather Rowe		Sarah Stilwell
23	Marie Wurzbach	31	Trista Grau
25	Marie Horstemeier		
26	Shelly Morris		
	Eric Morris		
	Erin Rowe		
30	Doug Stambaugh		

**Thank You**

Many thanks for your prayers, memorial gifts, and cards of sympathy we received in the passing our father Thomas Theiss.

A special thank you to Pastor Sam for being with us at such a trying time.

The Theiss Family

# July-August Prayer Circle



## Prayer Circle

Eloise Andrews  
 Ada Mae Begley  
 Frieda Bower  
 Barbara Deitz  
 Ron Dulli  
 Jack DuVall  
 Paul Freels  
 Fred Gaw  
 Betty Gregory  
 Dan Hartleb  
 Jay Hartleb  
 Nadine Hartleb  
 Bert Jackson  
 Jerri Keeler  
 Caroline Kerby

Miriam Kramer  
 Tom Laytart  
 Dave Mann  
 Jackie McKinney  
 Leland McKinney  
 Darrell Rainey  
 Matt Renfro  
 Marsha Schlichter  
 John Stumpf  
 Joyce Stumpf  
 Marie Wurzbach  
 U.S Armed Forces  
 & Families

### Family of

Tom Theiss  
 Ines Frost  
 Melanie Webber  
 Thomas Highley

*Your word is a lamp to my feet and light for my path.*

*Psalm 119:105*

Please check names carefully.  
 If there are any names that need to be removed call Shirley M. Lovely.

Please leave a message for the prayer circle with Shirley. Include the following information: name of person, illness. Then pass the same message to Carrie so both are informed of the names. Thanks, Shirley M. Lovely, 726-6223 and Carrie Hann, 867-1505

## Gift Certificates

The Youth will be ordering Gift Certificates again late August or early September. Watch your weekly bulletin for dates.  
 If you have any questions, call Sally Ortolf (867-8474).

## Gift Certificates

# Pool Party & Picnic



at

The Ortolf's

5550 Headgates Rd

Hamilton, Ohio 45011

On

July 18, 2009

2:00 p.m. to ????

**Meat will be provided, bring your favorite drink, a covered dish to share, a lawn chair and your swim gear.**

Car pooling is suggested.  
Directions available if needed.

R.S.V.P by July 11th

To

Sally at 867-8374

# July 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Sundays</b> 9:00 – Casual Worship    10:30 – Traditional Worship <b>Abbreviations</b> HS – Happy Stitchers    NA-Narcotics Anonymous    SC-Serve City Q – Quilters    CD-Community Dinner    CT-Computer Training			1 9:00 Happy Stitchers	2    9:00 –CT 10:00 – Q 4:00 DOJO	3    Office Closed for Independence Day	4  Independence Day
5    Lunch following service	6  7:00 – NA 7:00 Book Study at Pastor Sam’s	7 1:00 Dalton’s – Dis- cussion meeting 4:00 DOJO 5:00 – Deacons 6:30 - Elders	8 9:00 Happy Stitchers  4:00 Summer Reading 7:00 McCalley’s – Discussion meeting	9    9:00 –CT 10:00 – Q 1:00 - Foundation 4:00 DOJO	10	11
12    11:30 – Discus- sion meeting	13  7:00 – NA 7:00 Serve City 7:00 Book Study at Pastor Sam’s	14  4:00 DOJO 6:30 - Council	15 9:00 Happy Stitchers	16    9:00 –CT 10:00 – Q  4:00 DOJO	17	18  Just Friends – Pool Party at Ortolf’s 2:00 pm
19	20  7:00 – NA	21  4:00 DOJO	22 9:00 Happy Stitchers	23    9:00 –CT 10:00 – Q  4:00 DOJO	24	25
26	27  7:00 – NA 6:00 CD	28  4:00 DOJO	29 9:00 Happy Stitchers	30    9:00 –CT 10:00 – Q  4:00 DOJO	31	

# August 2009

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23	24 7:00 – NA	25 4:00 DOJO	26 9:00 Happy Stitchers	27 9:00 –CT 10:00 – Q 4:00 DOJO	28	29
30	31 7:00 – NA 6:30 CD					



First St. John  
United Church of Christ

412 South Front Street  
Hamilton OH 45011

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

**Our Mission:**

To use our individual and congregational gifts,  
talents and resources to communicate the Good News of Jesus Christ,  
and to bring to all His word, His healing, His compassion and  
His forgiveness by being a warm accepting and loving faith community.

The ECHO is a publication of  
First St. John United Church of Christ  
ISSN 383367-25

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Calendar & Activity Page Kathy Ullrich

Birthdays Lelia Kinner

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Pastor: Rev. Samuel Wyatt  
e mail rev.samwyatt@fuse.net

Music Director Kristal Bang

Office Manage Kathy Ullrich

Sunday Schedule:

Adult Bible Study 9:15 a.m.

Casual Service 9:00 a.m.

Worship Service 10:30 a.m.

Sunday School 10:30 a.m.