

January 2012
Vol. 47, Issue 1

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Serving Christ for 179 years



10:23 Prayer

Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful. - Hebrews 10:23

A new year brings new resolutions. Would you include one on behalf of our church family by setting aside one minute a day to pray for our ministry together? In keeping with the scripture above, please pray at 10:23 a.m. or p.m. Praying together unites us through the Spirit and reinforces our hope and focuses on God's faithfulness.

Carthage Christian Connection

Carthage Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) / 513-821-4921

From the Pastors' Office

"We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose." - Romans 8:28

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As we begin a new year, it seems quite natural that we would look ahead in anticipation of what 2012 might hold for us here at Carthage. Anticipation and expectation at times may predispose us to a particular outcome. Yet, in the Christian faith there is much that lies ahead that is almost impossible to predict. The Spirit moves and takes us in directions that we may not see or even want to go. But that is the sign of the Spirit. It is our openness and response to God's Spirit that will make the difference in God's purpose being accomplished through us and in our ministries together.

In 2012, we challenge you to **expect miracles**. That expectation will help prepare us to see God at work in our lives and in our community. **God has promised and God is faithful**. Our work is to hold fast in hope, and respond in obedience. Who knows where God will take us in the next 12 months? What does God want to accomplish in us and through us?

If we look back to the beginning of 2011, we're not sure that any of us saw the path God was laying before us. New Beginnings was not even a concept in our frame of mind. Heaven's Café was an unknown entity. And yet, through prayer and discernment, and a willingness to walk through doors that God opened for us, much has been accomplished and miracles have been manifested. Heaven's Café began as an outreach ministry of Wyoming Baptist Church, feeding the community one evening a month. The vision was embraced and God has used that program in unexpected ways. Heaven's Café moved to Carthage and is hosted in our Fellowship Hall by four area churches. There is a weekly Friday meal served and provides food for the body and the soul. Who could have imagined that within a few short months that ministry would have grown to be a weekly event with 75 in attendance on the last Friday of the year?

God has **BIG plans** for us this year. While the plans are not yet revealed to us, nonetheless God wants us to expect great things -- **TO EXPECT MIRACLES**. There is no doubt that **God is able**. The challenge is, **are we?** Will we commit to pray daily? Will we listen for God's voice to direct us? Will we open our eyes to God's work around us? Will we be open to how God wants to use us? Will we expect that in 2012, God will be revealed in new ways through us and throughout the Carthage community?

Pray in hope, trust God's faithfulness, expect God's power to be manifest in new and likely unanticipated ways. We challenge you to **pray and expect a miracle!**

In Christ,

Terre and Rebecca

MARK YOUR CALENDAR! Annual Congregational Meeting February 5

Our Annual Congregational Meeting is **Sunday, February 5** after Coffee Hour. In preparation for the meeting, reports from the church's committees and leadership teams should be turned in to the office by **Sunday, January 22**. During the Annual Meeting, we will hear reports from the church's leaders, and will vote on business items. Most of all, our Annual Meeting is a chance to celebrate God's work here at Carthage Christian Church in 2011, and to look ahead to 2012. Please plan to attend.

Scripture Lessons - January

Jan. 1	Isaiah 60:1-6 Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14 Ephesians 3:1-12 Matthew 2:1-12
Jan. 8	Genesis 1:1-5 Psalm 29 Acts 19:1-7 Mark 1:4-11
Jan. 15	1 Samuel 3:1-20 Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18 1 Corinthians 6:12-20 John 1:43-51
Jan. 22	Jonah 3:1-5, 10 Psalm 62:5-12 1 Corinthians 7:29-31 Mark 1:14-20
Jan. 29	Deuteronomy 18:15-20 Psalm 111 1 Corinthians 8:1-13 Mark 1:21-28

Save These Dates

Jan. 1	Coffee Hour after worship
Jan. 6	Heaven's Café
Jan. 13	Heaven's Café
Jan. 20	Heaven's Café
Jan. 27	Heaven's Café

Carthage Community News

There is **no Carthage Civic League meeting** in January. Thanks to all who donated prizes, brought food, and were present for the community Christmas Party on December 19. A good time was had by all!

Heaven's Café: God is good!

Heaven's Café is the community dinner we offer in partnership with several other local churches, each Friday from 5:30-6:30 in our Fellowship Hall.

November and December gave us time to get used to opening our doors to the community every week. Now that things are running smoothly, we need your help to PROMOTE Heaven's Café and INVITE people to come.

We are also considering special ministries during this time: **musical entertainment, children's programming, prayer ministry, and clothing ministry**. If you feel called to lead or serve in one of these areas, please see Rebecca or Terre.

New Beginnings Update

The House Meetings phase of our New Beginnings process wrapped up in early December. Thank you to **Bill Garner, Erin Scott, Erica Henry, Sharon Henry, Erin Raley, John Raley, Phyllis Bode, Etta Peavley, and Terre Garner** for your leadership with these meetings. During their December meeting, the Elders shared their groups' conclusions and ideas. Those will be shared with the congregation during our Annual Meeting on February 5. The next step for our congregation is to decide how to put our ideas and conclusions into action. Meanwhile, please continue to pray for our congregation as we begin to see God's vision for us take shape.

Youth News

The Youth have resumed our study from last year's Pastors Class of the re:form curriculum, a series of animated DVD lessons and activities in our "Unworkbooks." We will also be talking soon about Church Camp for the summer of 2012. Camp dates will soon be available at the Christian Church in Ohio website, www.ccinoh.org.

The holiday season was most joyful at Carthage, thanks to all who lent a hand to decorate, serve, work with children and their choir, cook wonderful luncheon food, and provide gifts and goodies.

A BIG THANK YOU to members of our church family who so generously provided Christmas gifts for the staff. God bless you. Many thanks!
Rev. Terre, Rev. Rebecca,
Evelina & Gerald

"The Scoop"

News in the life of our church family

- **Many thanks** on to all who shared the gift of music during the Advent season: **Mary Ann Power, the Praise Choir, Erin Raley, Issha Cain, Sarah Batterson, Dan Woods, the Children's Choir, and Evelina Kohaniah.**
- **Issha Cain** has a new job! Many thanks to God for answering this prayer. May Issha be blessed in her new employment.
- **Our Advent season** would not have been complete without our Christmas party and a visit from St. Nick. Many thanks to all who helped with donations of time, money, and gifts. A big thanks also to those who decorated for the Christmas season.
- **The VIFCC Christmas gifts** program blessed several families this year. Thanks especially to **Etta Peavley and Phyllis Bode** for making sure the gifts were taken up to Valley Interfaith's drop off site in time for distribution. Also, a big thanks to everyone who donated cans of chicken noodle soup for VIFCC's Christmas food baskets.
- **"Coups for Troops"** collects expired and unexpired coupons to send overseas to military families. These families are allowed to use the coupons up to 6 months after the expiration date. If you have coupons, please drop them in the "Coups for Troops" box in the church vestibule.
- **VIFCC Monthly Manna List:** crackers, soup, ramen noodles, canned spinach, tuna, canned fruit, cereal, pasta, sauce, feminine products, toilet paper, diapers, personal hygiene items like toothbrushes & toothpaste, new or gently used housewares, small appliances, clothing, sheets and blankets. Place donations in the basket at the back of the sanctuary.

Carthage Christian Church Events

January 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Epiphany Sunday 1 Coffee Hour after worship Dawn Raley	2	3 John Farns	4	5 Office Open 9 Noon Heaven's Cafe Community Meal 5:30-6:30 p.m.	6 Office Open 9 Noon Heaven's Cafe Community Meal 5:30-6:30 p.m.	7 Elders Meeting, 8:30 a.m.
8	9	10	11	12 Office Open 9 Noon Heaven's Cafe Community Meal 5:30-6:30 p.m.	13 Office Open 9 Noon Heaven's Cafe Community Meal 5:30-6:30 p.m.	14
15 Martin Luther King Jr. Day	16	17	18 Bible Study resumes 6:30-8 p.m. at the church	19 Office Open 9 Noon Heaven's Cafe Community Meal 5:30-6:30 p.m. 3rd Friday - at the old Carthage School	20 Office Open 9 Noon Heaven's Cafe Community Meal 5:30-6:30 p.m. 3rd Friday - at the old Carthage School	21 Danny Woods
22 Feb. newsletter deadline Reports due for Annual Report Rebecca Woods	23	24	25 Bible Study 6:30-8 p.m.	26 Office Open 9 Noon Heaven's Cafe Community Meal 5:30-6:30 p.m.	27 Office Open 9 Noon Heaven's Cafe Community Meal 5:30-6:30 p.m.	28 Richard Bode Jes mine Johnson
29 MUSIC SUNDAY	30	31	Bible Study 6:30-8 p.m.			

Carthage Christian Church

(Disciples of Christ)

19 West 73rd Street
Cincinnati, Ohio
45216-1807

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CARTHAGE CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)

19 West 73rd Street
Cincinnati, Ohio
45216-1807

PHONE:
513-821-4921

E-MAIL:
carthage.church@fuse.net

WEB SITE:
www.carthagechurch.org

Join us this Sunday!

9:30 a.m. Sunday School
10:45 a.m. Worship/
Communion

Co-Pastors:

Rev. Terre Garner &
Rev. Rebecca Woods

Board Chairperson:

Phyllis Bode

Vice Chairperson:

Erica Henry

Newsletter Editor:

Rev. Rebecca Woods

Opportunities for Prayer

Please Pray For Our Diamond Disciples

Fran Applegate, John & Bert Baillie, Richard Bode;
Doris Bonnell, Betty Evans, Betty Fyffe, Evonnia &
William Garner, Eve Hale, Don Hopkins, Maxine
Johnson, John McAninch, Virginia Ransom,
Mildred Ross, Norma Jean Smith, Julia & Lawrence
Sprong, Simon Strong, Janet Taylor, Vernon
Whitescarver

And Our Honorary Diamond Disciples

Sylvia McAninch, Handy Matthews, Ruby Schnelle,
Elmer Staat

*Help us keep up to date. If you find our prayer
list needs updating, please call the church
office and let us know.*

The office is open **Fridays** from 9:00 to Noon.
Office hours are also available by appointment.

The Mission and Vision of Carthage Christian Church...

as approved by the Church Board on December 13th, 2009:

The Mission of Carthage Christian Church is to preach, teach, and practice the love of Jesus Christ.

Our vision is to be one with God, His Kingdom, and each other.

Welcome Visitors

Amberly & Hailey Woods
Terry Wilson
Mary and Beaufort
Schindlers (Bob, Sue, Katie)
Rachel Mitchell, Russell & children
Kathy Stidham
Packer family (Bob, Julie, Sarah Brooke, Lindsay)
Damon Wilder
David Hoppes
Bill Garner Jr.
The James family & Ginny Tucker
The Hall family

In and Out of the Hospital/Outpatient

Simon Strong
Betty Evans
Brenda J. Bruegman
John McAninch
Betty Fyffe
Angel Goss
Handy Matthews