



The Good Word

The Newsletter of Brecksville United Methodist Church

65 Public Square, Brecksville, Ohio 44141 Phone: 440-526-8938

August Issue : Published July 22, 2011

A Word on Water

Potable (adjective): suitable for drinking because it is clean and uncontaminated

The issue of access to potable water is of vital importance around the world. In developed countries, people may not put a great deal of thought into the source of their water. We simply turn on the tap for fresh, healthy drinking water. Elsewhere, especially across the continent of Africa, a large proportion of the population does not have access to safe water.

Water which is not safe to drink may contain heavy metals or pathogens. People who drink the water may become ill, and there is a risk of death. Unfortunately, even in areas where the water is known to be unsafe, people may drink it anyway out of desperation. The lack of potable water is often accompanied by other lapses in sanitation, such as open sewers and limited garbage collection. Many of these public health issues impact the poor more than anyone else.

We are so blessed in northeast Ohio to have access to the fresh water of Lake Erie. The Great Lakes contain one-fifth of the world's supply of fresh water, and that water sustains 40 million people. Although plentiful, we know that this resource is not unlimited. As good stewards of the earth we must treat it with care. Scientists tell us that Lake Erie is the shallowest, warmest and most nutrient rich of all the Great Lakes. For these reasons, it is the most biologically productive, producing more fish for human consumption than all of the other Great Lakes combined.

This bounty drives a \$1.4 billion commercial and sport fishing industry for Lake Erie, generating more than \$800 million per year for Ohio, another \$9.3 billion in annual revenue from travel and tourism, and more than \$400 million in taxes...all for the Buckeye State.

In 2008, the Great Lakes compact was ratified by the governors of the eight states that border the lakes and the two bordering Canadian provinces. The compact won approval in the U.S. House and Senate, and within days President Bush signed the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River Basin Water Resources Compact into law.

The focus of the compact is to control water use within the lakes' drainage basin, as well as to prohibit water leaving the basin. Under the compact, each state must enact legislation to direct how the state will carry out the compact's

provisions. In Ohio, an advisory board was created to provide recommendations which made their way to our state legislature.

Their recommendation is to cap usage at 5 million gallons of water a day per company from Lake Erie, 2 million from rivers or groundwater, or 300,000 from designated "high quality" streams. Existing users will be "grandfathered-in" under the law, exempting them from any withdrawal limits. In addition, water conservation measures would be voluntary, not mandatory. Michigan, New York, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin have generally set limits of 100,000 gallons of water use per day before a permit is required. Minnesota's standard is 10,000 gallons per day.

Many groups feel that Ohio's limit is much too high. "The triggers should be lower so the state can monitor more withdrawals," said John Stark, Ohio freshwater conservation director for The Nature Conservancy. "The stream ecosystems could be damaged before anybody realizes what's happening," Stark said.

State Senators approved the bill in just two weeks, ignoring concerns raised by anglers, charter boat captains, environmental-conservation organizations, scientists, small business owners, former Governor Bob Taft, former mayor/Governor/and U.S. Senator George Voinovich, former Ohio Department of Natural Resources Directors Sam Speck and Joseph Sommer, former Ohio Environmental Protection Agency Director Chris Jones, and the editorial boards of the Akron Beacon Journal, Cleveland Plain Dealer, Kent-Ravenna Record Courier, Toledo Blade, and the Youngstown Vindicator.

Business interests in Ohio countered by saying that water in Lake Erie is plentiful enough to accommodate the additional withdrawals allowed under the Ohio legislation. They say that no harm will come from increasing the amount of water pulled out of Lake Erie watershed.

Scientists from Ohio State University's Ohio Sea Grant College, Kent State University's Water Resources Institute, and The Ohio Chapter of the Nature Conservancy do not see it that way. They tell us that the massive withdrawals and consumptive uses allowed under the new law could

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SUMMER
 WORSHIP SCHEDULE

8:30 Outdoor Worship
10:00 Sanctuary Service

Nursery care available during sanctuary service.

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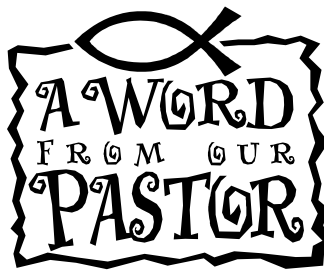
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Where's Your Cat?

Comments from Rev. Clark Stein

A devout Christian man, who had a cat, used to spend several minutes each day at prayer and meditation in his bedroom. He read a portion of scripture and a devotional book, followed by a period of silent meditation and prayer. As time went on his prayers became much longer and more intense.

He came to cherish the quiet time alone in his bedroom, but his cat came to like it, too. She would cozy up to him, purr loudly, and rub her furry body against him. This interrupted the man's prayer time, so he put a collar around the cat's neck and tied her to the bedpost whenever he wanted to be undisturbed while at prayer. This didn't seem to upset the cat, and it meant the man could meditate without interruption.

Over the years, the daughter of this devout Christian had noted how much this devotional time had meant to him. When she began to establish some routines and patterns with her own family, she decided that she should do as her father had done. Dutifully, she, too, tied her cat to the bedpost and then proceeded with her devotions. But time moved faster in her generation, and she couldn't spend as much time in prayer as did her father.

The day came when her son grew up and wanted to make sure that he preserved some of the family traditions which had meant so much to his mother and his grandfather. But the pace of life had quickened all the more, and there simply was not the time for such elaborate devotional proceedings. So he eliminated the time for meditation, Bible reading and prayer. But in order to carry on the religious tradition, each day while he was dressing, he tied the family cat to the bedpost.

As we get ready to make another run at the fall with new programs, new classes, and new opportunities for faith, fun and fellowship, may we examine how and why we do things. May we be about our business together for the right reason: to make and mature disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. Perhaps it is even time to untie the cats...

Peace.

Pastor Clark



GOOD WORD



Go tell it ... EVERYWHERE!

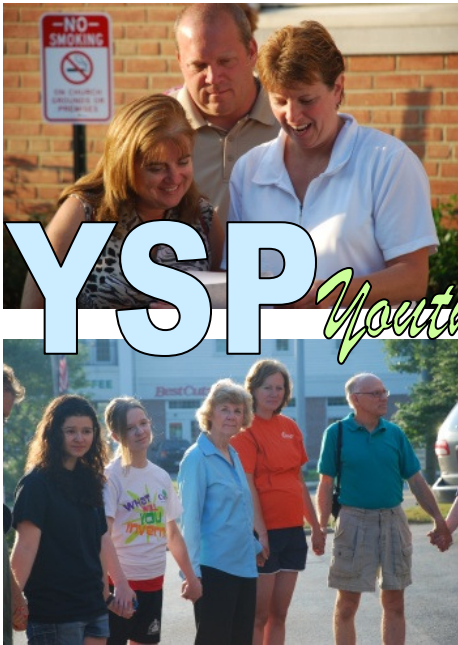


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Youth Service Project 2011

Early on the sunny Sunday morning of July 10, a group of our youth and adults gathered at BUMC to depart for this year's YSP trip to Grand Rapids, Michigan. They returned on July 16. To learn all about their experiences repairing homes for those in need and what they learned from their time with other Christian campers, ask a YSP participant!

Think Fall!



Do you hear the call to teach others and be touched by the experience of discussing and sharing your faith?

Take some time this summer to prayerfully consider offering yourself to others and sharing your talents this fall. Some areas to consider:

- **Crib and Toddler Room:** Help with our littlest family members in the crib and toddler room. Shifts are available during first and second service as well as during the Sunday School hour.
- **Sprouts or Godly Play:** Have you ever considered spending time with our preschoolers? These little ones are thoughtful and delightful!
- **Rotation Sunday School:** For children from 1st grade through 5th grade. The curriculum is well written and training is always available.
- **6th and 7th graders** meet and discuss curriculum that asks them to apply the lessons of the Bible to their everyday life.
- **8th graders** meet weekly as they prepare for their Confirmation. It is a special gift to spend time with these young people and be a part of their faith journey. The curriculum provided is well written and engaging.
- **Senior High** students meet and discuss current topics that are significant in their day to day life. Studies range from current events, to book studies to Bible studies.
- **Adult Education Classes:** Have you read a book that really spoke to you or have a subject matter on which you would like to lead a study? We would love to have you join the teacher ranks!

Contact Jenny if you are interested in leading any classes this year. Call the church 440-526-8938 or e-mail: education@brecksvilleumc.com.



Calling all parents!

Rally Days are Sunday, August 28 and Sunday, September 4. Stop by the Narthex before or after service to register your child for Sunday School!

ALL new classes for ALL ages begin on September 11.



Paper Recycling



Recycling 812 lbs of paper saves 1665 kilowatt hrs of electricity!

This year, we're weighing our paper before it goes to recycling. So far we've recycled 812 pounds of paper. Recycling paper saves more than just trees. Did you know that recycling 1 ton of paper saves 17 mature trees, 7,000 gallons of water, 3 cubic yards of landfill space, 2 barrels of oil, and 4,100 kilowatt-hours of electricity?



Old Cell Phones Add Up!

Recycling Effort Earns Money for Missions

Do you have an old cell phone sitting in a drawer? Put it to good use—recycle it! So far this year, we've recycled 17 phones, earning \$20 for our missions budget and keeping them out of the landfill. Bring your old phones (no cords or accessories, please) to the red bin in the cloak room.



Have news you would like to share?
Please call or e-mail Melanie.

We've got babies!

Pastor Clark and Kathy welcomed their first grandchild, Liam Thomas McLaughlin, on Monday, June 27—the day they moved into the parsonage. Liam arrived earlier than expected, but he and his mother, Hannah, are doing great.

Dave and Donna Sibits welcomed a new grandson, Brayden Christopher Sibits, on June 18. He is the son of Scott & Lisa Sibits.

To all my friends and BUMC Family:

Thank you for all your prayers and cards. I really appreciate getting them. Keep praying, for I have a lot of recovery to do. I will make it!

Love, June Tschannen



As people of faith, we find God's presence in those who have been blessings to us. At our weekly Staff Meetings we recently lifted up the following people in prayer, thanking God for them and the way they touch the lives of others:

Robin Raybuck, who organized welcoming events for the Steins and our new youth director.

Chuck Gezze, for his work with the Staff Parish Relations Committee.

Jennifer Schneider

AUGUST Birthdays

John	Dietrich	08/01	Lois	Markley	08/14
Daniel	Jaszczak	08/01	David	Meek	08/14
Sally	Jones	08/01	Barbara	Tereshko	08/14
Letitia	Kwiatkowski	08/01	Kathy	Auble	08/15
Skip	Smith	08/01	Chuck	Gezze	08/15
Susan	Hurst	08/02	Matt	Johnson	08/17
Katrina	Orr	08/02	Karin	Meyer	08/17
Nicholas	Orr	08/02	Laverne	Ahrens	08/18
Kaitlyn	Robinson	08/02	George	Diver	08/18
Ben	Eberhardt	08/03	Nancy	Lundholm	08/18
Karen	Fisher	08/03	Sarah	Lundholm	08/18
Jeffery	Hastings	08/03	Bob	Tschannen	08/18
Steven	Vastartis	08/03	Robin	Engler	08/19
John	Zawada	08/03	Joan	Olszko	08/19
Catherine	Derry	08/04	Roger	Wadsworth	08/20
Kristi	Eberhardt	08/04	Robert	Wilson	08/20
Joan	Filips	08/04	Gracie	Auble	08/21
Judith	Novak	08/04	Mark	Robinson	08/21
Karen	Walburn	08/05	Nathan	Robinson	08/21
Franklin	Pasek	08/06	Rebecca	Urso	08/21
Dean	Campbell	08/07	Jill	Zawada	08/21
Joan	Martin	08/07	Patricia	Fowler	08/22
Mary Jane	Opatrny	08/07	Ann	Zupanc	08/22
Jeffrey	Mihalich	08/08	Margaret	Anderson	08/24
Daniel	Rittgers	08/08	Chelsea	Croy	08/24
James	Rollins	08/08	Andrew	Dorman	08/24
Laina	Culley	08/09	Helen	Lee	08/26
Elizabeth	Monnin	08/09	Christopher	Nurre	08/26
Valorie	Bender	08/10	Bridget	Gee	08/27
Allison	Engler	08/10	Amelia	Guell	08/27
Beth	Dadas	08/11	Diane	Pidwell	08/27
Maddie	Holt	08/11	Nancy	Cunningham	08/28
Heather	Manocchio	08/11	Janet	Nelson	08/28
Scott	Ramsey	08/11	Donald	Southam	08/28
Trey	Shively	08/12	Kristin	Bisco	08/29
Mark	Vastartis	08/12	James	Hocutt	08/29
John	Galik	08/13	Margaret	Haseley	08/30
Lue	Andree	08/14	Patricia	Neville	08/30
Aleyna	Gee	08/14	Andrew	Scott	08/31

"May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other and for everyone else, just as ours does for you."

1 Thessalonians 3:12



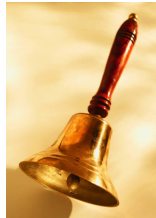
Music Department News

It's hard to believe fall is around the corner, but it's never too soon to get important dates on the calendar and consider how you might get involved in music this fall!



Chancel Choir – This ensemble meets on Thursday evenings from 7:30 to 9:00pm. They share a variety of anthems and participate in leading worship at the 11:15 service. Singers of all ages and ability levels are welcome, or consider participating for a semester or a special season. Rehearsals will resume on September 8 for the 2011 – 2012 program year.

Handbell Choir – This ensemble meets on Thursday evenings from 6:15 to 7:30pm. They prepare anthems and participate in worship approximately once per month at both the 8:45 and 11:15 services. Ringers of all ages and ability levels are welcome, or consider making a one-month commitment and participating as a sub. Rehearsals will resume on September 8 for the 2011 – 2012 program year.



Worship Band – Instrumentalists and vocalists are invited to participate in leading worship at the 8:45 service. Guitar and bass players are always in demand, but any instrumentalists are welcome. Commitment can be for every Sunday or on an as-available basis. Rehearsals are on Sunday mornings at 8:00 and will resume on September 11, in conjunction with the return to our fall worship schedule.



Christian Musical Arts Program – CMAP is a graded music program for children

and youth. The program runs on Wednesday afternoons and includes choir and handbell rehearsals for preschool children up through middle school youth. There is a nominal annual registration fee for the CMAP program; registration forms are available upon request. The CMAP program will resume on Wednesday, September 14.

**Please note that the Quest program will take place on Thursdays this year!



High School Ensemble – This ensemble meets weekly for about 45 minutes and prepares to share an anthem and/or lead worship on a monthly basis. Rehearsal time will be determined based on the schedule of participants and will resume during the week of September 12-16.

Kids Column!

FROSTY FRESH GRAPE POPS

Jesus is our vine, and we are to be his fruitful branches. Have "bunches" of fun making this refreshing grape snack.

What you need:

- An adult to help
- 4½ cups seedless grapes (red, green or black)
- Food processor
- Plastic spatula
- Strainer
- Mixing bowl
- Whisk
- 2 teaspoons sugar
- Food coloring (red, green or blue; optional)
- 5 oz. paper cups
- Aluminum foil
- Popsicle or craft sticks
- Another 2 cups grapes, halved (optional)



What you do:

1. Blend grapes in a food processor until smooth.
2. With a plastic spatula, press mixture through a strainer into a mixing bowl. Discard skins and skim foam off the top.
3. Whisk sugar into juice until dissolved. Add a few drops of food coloring, if desired.
4. Fill cups with juice, spooning most of the foam off the top. (If using additional grapes, put ¼-cup halved grapes into each cup.)
5. Cover each cup with foil and insert a wooden stick into the center of the foil.
6. Place cups in freezer.
7. To remove pops, take off foil and tear away cup. Enjoy!

Variation: To make layered juice pops, make two batches of mix from different-colored grapes. Fill cups half full with one color, cover and then insert the stick and freeze. Then fill with the remaining color and freeze again.



A Youth Group Visits from Illinois

Like our own YSP program, a centerpiece of the youth program at Barrington United Methodist Church in Barrington, Illinois is their Summer Mission Trip. This year their Senior High group traveled from Illinois to Canonsburg, Pennsylvania for a week with Group Workcamps. Along the way, they stopped to spend the night here in Brecksville. Grant Hellworth, a former member of our church, brought the group here. A stop in Brecksville made their long drive a little easier. Happily, their trip coincided with Home Days, so the kids were able to really enjoy their visit and even helped out at our cherry pie booth! Thank you to the Vastartis family who hosted a cook-out at their home for the group, and to John Dietrich who was able to be here at the church to make them all feel at home. When the kids arrived in Pennsylvania, they met up with other church youth groups from around the country and together they helped people in need with home repairs and small construction projects.



A study of "Jesus in the Gospels" resumes on Monday nights from 7-9 beginning August 22 through December. This 30-week course leads you into a deeper understanding of the gospels than you have ever had before. "Jesus in the Gospels" is part of the Disciple Bible Study family. You can expect rewarding small group study, challenging daily readings, and relevant faith growth. See Cathy Buttolph if you are interested or would like to know more. Watch for chances to register in August.

UMCOR School Kits



In some countries, children don't have books or school supplies. Many have no schoolrooms; classes are held in inadequate or half-destroyed buildings, tents, or even the open air. Often students must write down everything the teacher says or records on a board. Their teacher's knowledge and their own notes are their only textbooks. School kits may be the only educational resources available to these children.

Each year the children and youth attending VBS are encouraged to take part in a mission project of some type. This year we will be collecting items for UMCOR school kits. Our UMW has graciously agreed to sew 25 bags and pick up the cost for the material! Please consider making a donation of items to go in the bags or make a financial donation to help defray the cost of shipping the kits. Our goal is to make 25 kits!

UMCOR asks that only new items be placed in a school kit.

- ◆ 1 pair blunt scissors (rounded tip)
- ◆ 2 pads (or loose leaf) 8 1/2" x 11" ruled paper
- ◆ 1 30-centimeter ruler
- ◆ 1 hand-held pencil sharpener
- ◆ 6 unsharpened pencils with erasers
- ◆ 1 eraser, 2 1/2"
- ◆ 12 sheets construction paper (varied colors)
- ◆ 1 box of 24 crayons (only 24)



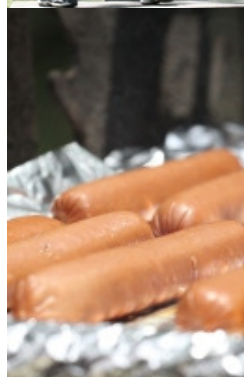
Important: Please do not include any religious, political or patriotic notes or emblems in any kit. The items should not have any advertising on them. Thank you for your donations. We are Christ's hands in the world!



Hot Dog Picnic

On a beautiful July afternoon, a group of BUMC youth gathered in the park to welcome and get to know our Interim Youth Director, Cristy Shumaker. Nothing says "summer" like hotdogs, cookies, bag-o and Frisbee!

Big thanks to Kay Mendlik for the photography!





BUMC Home Days!

A BIG THANK YOU! UMW would like to thank everyone who helped make our Home Days booth a successful endeavor. With your help, we raised over \$4,000 to use for our mission funds. A big hand goes to the bakers, booth workers, and cleanup group. Everyone enjoyed the cherry pies and cobblers, pulled beef sandwiches, and Texas sheet cake. There very little left by the time of the Sunday fireworks! Thank you again!

Clockwise from left: Grandma's Cherry Pies at Brecksville Home Days! Amy Pierokowski, Dave Brown, and Doug Huth; Emily Kotnik bakes some goodies; Zack Johnson, Jennifer Schneider, Maddie Pierkowski, and Payton Schneider. Special thanks to Stephanie Sak for the great photos!

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cause more harmful algal blooms, less water for hydropower, and an impact on our drinking water.

According to legal experts from University of Toledo's College of Law, Great Lakes Environmental Law Center, and the National Wildlife Federation, the unbalanced legislation violates the compact by failing to meet minimum standards. Although the compact does not specify an amount, it does require limits be set within reason. Current withdrawal of water is 3.4 billion gallons statewide. A regulation of 5 billion gallons per user is really like no regulation at all.

Representatives Dennis Murray and Mike Skindell have written a counter proposal to be presented to the state legislature. The Murray-Skindell bill sets the threshold for water withdrawals without a permit at 2.5 million gallons of water per day over a 30-day period for Lake Erie and 500,000 gallons per day over a 30-day period for groundwater.

By 2013, each state must develop and implement a water management program. If by 2018 a program has not established thresholds for when a water user must seek a permit, then the threshold drops to 100,000 gallons per day averaged over a 90-day period.

Please keep informed about this legislation and write your congressperson with your thoughts.

Each month, The Good Word highlights a social just issue and action that you can take to be a blessing to our brothers and sisters in Christ. What issues are important to you? Suggestions?

Garden Elves Rummage Sale

Saturday, September 17

Don't throw it away! If it's in working condition and clean, we need it! Garden tools, household "stuff", toys, sporting equipment, books and furniture. We say no to clothing, old telephones and computers.

All proceeds are used to maintain our church grounds. So empty those closets, clean out that garage, and bring the things you no longer need or want to the September sale!

We'll have space available on the stage after September 1st.

THANK YOU!



For the most current information,
click the "general calendar" link at
www.brecksvilleumc.com

AUGUST 2011

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2 9:30 Staff Mtg	3 6:30 Dawnbrks 6:30p Cycling Club	4 4 Women's Emmaus Bloch & Campbell Mowing	5 7 Emmaus Reunion	6 Wedding
7 8:30 Outdoor Worship 10 Sanctuary Service 2 Hiking Club	8	9 9:30 Staff Mtg 1-7 Blood Drive 7 COM 8 Committee Meetings	10 6:30 Dawnbrks 6:30p Cycling Club	11 4 Women's Emmaus Herzing & Lundholm Mowing	12 7 Emmaus Reunion	13
14 8:30 Outdoor Worship 10 Sanctuary Service	15	16 9:30 Staff Mtg 7:30 Finance 7:30 Trustees	17 6:30 Dawnbrks 6:30p Cycling Club 7 Staff Parish Relations	18 4 Women's Emmaus Hayes & Sendrey Mowing	19 7 Emmaus Reunion 	20 9 Walk to Emmaus
21 Summer Choir 8:30 Outdoor Worship 10 Sanctuary Service	22 7 Jesus in the Gospels Bible Study	23 9:30 Staff Mtg	24 6:30 Dawnbrks 6:30p Cycling Club	25 4 Women's Emmaus Fenton & Johnson Mowing	26 7 Emmaus Reunion 9:30 UMW Board Meeting	27 9 Walk to Emmaus
28 RALLY DAY 8:30 Outdoor Worship 10 Sanctuary Service 12 Book Study 5 Middle School Picnic	29 7 Jesus in the Gospels Bible Study	30 9:30 Staff Mtg	31 6:30 Dawnbrks 6:30p Cycling Club		Summer Book Discussion Selection For August: <i>Speaking Christian</i> By Marcus Borg	

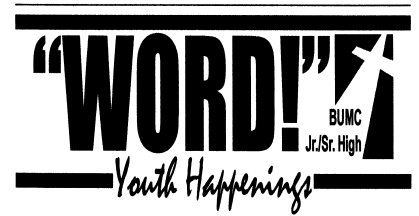




GALATIANS 5:13, NIV



Hey, kids! Ready for CMAP?



Comments from Cristy Shumaker

Thank you, Brecksville UMC. You have made me feel extremely welcome here and I really appreciate it. Leaving my home church was difficult for me, but I knew that God was calling me to Brecksville, and in just a week or so, it's already starting to feel like home. I feel quite blessed to be in such a warm and loving environment.

I believe that God has called me here to Brecksville to join this community of Christ to love, support, and lead the youth. I couldn't be more excited about this opportunity. The youth here have energy and passion, I can tell this much already. It's evidenced in their smiles, their laughter, their willingness to embrace someone new, and their excitement about serving.

As a church, it is our job to encourage this energy and passion and spur them "onward towards love and good deeds." (Hebrews 10:24) And I hope you'll join me in doing so.

Someone once told me, "the youth are not the future of YOUR church, they are the future of someone else's church." This may well be true. However, when we think of Christ's church, there's no "your church" or "someone else's church." There is just THE Church, we are all ONE church together, loving Christ and loving others.

So as our youth return from their summer mission and serving through VBS, let us help them realize that they ARE indeed the future of The Church, let us encourage them to do many more great things, and give of themselves to those in need around them. It is my hope to help our youth gain every confidence and tool that they will need on their journey, and to know that they are loved by this community of Christ, the greater community and most importantly, loved by God.