

November 2009



The Scripture readings for the month are as follows:



- November 1 Isaiah 25:6-9
Psalm 24
Revelations 21:1-6a
John 11:32-44
- November 8 Ruth 3:1-5, 4:13-17
Psalm 127
Hebrews 9:24-28
Mark 12:38-44
- November 15 1 Samuel 1:4-20
1 Samuel 2:1-10
Hebrews 10:11-14 (15-18)
19-25
Mark 13:1-8
- November 22 2 Samuel 23:1-7
Psalm 132:1-12 (13-18)
Revelations 1:4b-8
John 18:33-37
- November 29 Jeremiah 33:14-16
Psalm 25:1-10
1 Thessalonians 3:9-13
Luke 21:25-36

**NOVEMBER Deacon of the Month
Judy Cunningham**

FROM YOUR TREASURER



**In this season of Thanksgiving –
remember and celebrate all your
blessings**

OFFERING ASSISTANTS – Thanks to the folks who have volunteered their time. If you cannot cover your assigned Sunday, please arrange a trade with another on the team.

11/1	R. Matlock	11/22	B. Feldmann
11/8	L. Butler	11/29	S. Ingmire
11/15	M. Champion		

Peacemaking Offering – Monies collected through 10/25 are **\$598**. There's still time to participate. Mark your check or pew envelope "Peacemaking"and remember – 25% of what's collected is for our own designation - Session with input from Worship Committee, will be deciding this soon.

Sunday November 15 – Mark your calendars for this very important date at MAPC. We will culminate the Stewardship

Campaign and share our traditional Thanksgiving dinner right after services. Please plan to join in this very special time of counting our blessings!

EOG's thru 10/18/09, are being realized at **76%**. Our 2009 operating budget is currently "looking good" - supported by your generous contributions, endowment monies and a significant surplus carried over from 2008. End of year spending decisions are being made, if there are circumstances that may impact your EOG - please let me know so that information can be considered. Let me know if you have any questions or concerns. Thanks much.

'08 - 11 Capital Campaign Pledges - actual received to date against the 3 yr pledge drive is \$160,656. (Not counting funds for the stained glass.) **44%** of the pledges have been paid. At this point - improvement plans mirror funding. If anything changes about your pledge - please let me know asap. Thanks.

Contribution Statements - Statements through the 3rd quarter were emailed or snail mailed out last month. If you did not receive one - and want one - please let me know.

Aluminum Can recycling - The total monies to date for 2009 is **\$63.00**. This is almost 2/3 less than our collection to date - same time last year. This "double ministry" helps the environment as well as our designated mission efforts of Russian orphanages and Older health and wellness. So remember to bring in those cans and thanks to Robin Pendery for managing the disposal.

Legacy Gifts - Need help creating one for MAPC? Susan Ingmire would love to help answer any questions !

Did You Know? - MAPC has a separate bank account for designated contributions. Monies given to here are used for the specific or very related item. A few examples are

Church School - monies are use for Christian education related activities

Gard Leadership - monies are used for MAPC leadership activities

Organ Fund - while the instrument itself is paid off - it still requires maintenance work from time to time

Hoyer Elevator - use the elevator? routine and emergency maintenance goes on all year long .

If you're looking to make an end of year contribution and want it to apply to a specific area - please see Lisa, We can find a home!!!!

The next meeting of the Finance & Stewardship Committee - Tuesday November 10, 7:00 pm, at the church. Want to be part of this aspect of MAPC? - come join us.

Doing nothing for others is the undoing of ourselves. - Horace Mann

MAPC Capital Campaign Update

Social Room

Thanks to lots of volunteer labor at the October workday the social room was back in use for Sunday the 18th. The work crew dusted and cleaned all the tables, chairs, pews windowsills, washed the windows and replaced all the burned out light bulbs. Final finish cleaning of the floor at this writing was still to be completed as we were waiting for the contractor to return to clean up some of the adhesive smudges. We have a contractor lined up to finish painting the chair storage area and the purple columns.

Men's Room Renovation: The men's room was also inaugurated on October 18th to rave reviews from everyone. Thanks goes to Guy for solving several last minute issues that were resolved invisibly.

Sound System. A sound system contractor has been selected with a bid that came in under our original estimate. This work will be proceeding as soon as the new equipment required is available.

Landscaping. The electrical work on the Taft Road side of the connector installed large electrical boxes to the outside of the building. The work also removed all the plantings along this façade. We plan to plant trees to hide the electrical work at the November workday so they get the proper fall start. Charlotte Staub's memorial tree will also be replaced at that time. Additional landscaping will be completed in the spring including replacing the grass with ground cover to help minimize maintenance.

If you haven't made a pledge or gift, and would like to, please contact Eric Burgmann or anyone on the Finance and Stewardship committee, your gift could make a big difference in the scope of what we can accomplish in projects left to do, like the kitchen or Geier room renovations.

ADULT ENCOUNTERS

Geier Room 9:45-10:45

Death Penalty

October 18, 2009- Christian response to the death penalty and PAAD's opposition, Brian Tansey

October 25, 2009 - Christian response to the death penalty and PAAD's opposition, Brian Tansey

Spirituality and Touch

November 1, 2009 - Spirituality and Energy Revisited, Nan Costello

November 8, 2009 - Spirituality and Acupuncture, Dr. Monteil Rosenthal

November 15, 2009 - Holy Ideas of the Enneagram, Ron Esposito

ADULT ENCOUNTERS FOR ADVENT

Whether it's memories of caroling, Christmas pageants, or Christmas Eve services, the hymns of Christmas are some

of the most evocative parts of the season for many of us. They refocus our spirits and remind us of the holiness and mystery of God's incarnation.

Beginning November 29, Judy and Norm Lindblad and friends will lead a four-session Advent study that explains the history behind some of our favorite carols. Focusing on the ways in which words and music can speak to the core of our experiences, each session will spend time in reflection, conversation, and simple enjoyment of these beloved hymns, including the use of current events, lyrical composition, and meditation.

The four hymns that will be examined are:

- "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"
 - "Silent Night, Holy Night"
 - "O Little Town of Bethlehem"
- "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

First pray.

Then listen to the voice of God.

Then identify yourself or someone you know to be nominated for Elder or Deacon at Mt. Auburn Presbyterian Church.

Presbyterians are called (not chosen) to the office Elder or Deacon. The Holy Spirit taps you, through the Nominating Committee, on the shoulder and says, "Come serve."

Now is the time to nominate yourself or others to the office of Elder, Deacon and at-large member of the Nominating Committee. After prayer, the Nominating Committee will confidentially contact the nominees they feel to be called to serve at this time, and describe the duties and responsibilities of the office. The process of discernment means that not everyone suggested will be asked to serve at this time, but may, indeed be asked to serve at another time, or in another way. Please submit your suggestions for Elders or Deacons by placing their name in the offering plate on Sunday :(there will be inserts in the bulletin for this purpose) or dropping it off at the church office no later than January 10, 2010.

This step in your spiritual journey can be fun and rewarding. Please consider this call for nominations with prayer and discernment.

The Nominating Committee

stew-ard-ship

the conducting, supervising, or managing of something; *especially*: the careful and responsible management of something entrusted to one's care

Stewardship season is here once again. It is time for us to celebrate and be thankful for all the blessings that we have. It is also a time for each of us to reflect on how we manage the precious resources that have been entrusted to us – our time, our talents, our energy, and our financial resources – and how our management of these resources fits with our spiritual goals.

Please join us in our 2009 Stewardship Campaign as we ponder the question, "What is God calling me to give?"

We hope you will plan on joining us on Stewardship Sunday, November 15, 2009 as we continue the MAPC tradition of gathering together for a home-cooked Thanksgiving meal immediately following service on that day. A group of MAPC chefs will be working hard in the kitchen, and we will be asking for members of the congregation to provide side dishes and desserts and help in other ways. If you are interested in helping with meal preparation or setup, please contact Nan Costello. All members, friends and visitors are welcome to take part in this celebration, so we hope that you will join us.

We are so blessed in our congregation and each other. Let's join our hearts together as we continue our journey through this stewardship season. Each one of you is an important part of our community, and we hope everyone will be part of the fellowship in the Stewardship Sunday celebration and a participant in our work together in 2010.

Gloria Gillespie & Bonnie DeMoranville
Co-Chairs Finance & Stewardship Committee

MEMORIAL BENCH IN HONOR OF CAMILLA

Back in 2004, I had the idea of a memorial bench in honor of Camilla Warrick. My idea was to have her son Owen, a skilled craftsman, build a bench in her honor. I met with Camilla's family, husband Paul and sons Owen and Noah, to work out the design and details for the bench. They all loved the idea. Well, great things sometimes need great patience...this summer the bench has been finished. The bench is located in the connector on the Sanctuary level.

Owen has put a great deal of thought into this bench - the design, the shape, the wood selection and the finish. His love and passion for the craft can be seen in the beautifully detailed joints and mahogany wood. Owen's talent is enormous! I suggest that everyone take a moment to enjoy this wonderfully crafted bench. Like a great friend, the bench invites us to rest comfortably and feel supported. The bench is a beautiful ode to Camilla's strength and grace – this is how we remember her legacy to Mt. Auburn Presbyterian Church.

We lost our beloved Camilla Warrick to cancer in 2002. For those of you who are not familiar with Camilla, her guidance and vision through the 1990s helped to shape MAPC's inclusive philosophy and welcoming, open communion policy. She spoke and wrote boldly and beautifully, both professional and for the missions of our church. She was a great leader of Mt. Auburn during the first days of the More Light policy and helped Hal Porter and others find words to help wend a way through difficult times. Her sermons were always beautiful and original. Four of them, I believe, are on cassette tape and bear a listen.

Camilla is remembered by so many for her fierceness of friendship, her unwavering sense of decency & dignity, the strength of her fist when it pumped in support of others, her ability to run on her toes (even through

the snow), her appreciation for Mother Nature/ Father Time/ Brothers "Grin"/ and for being a Soul-Sister to us all.

As a reporter for the Cincinnati Post she had an admirable career. Her columns and stories frequently championed the underdog or unfortunate people, and delighted in praising people who did something in the interests of justice. She had a well-developed sense of humor and mischievous. She was a delight to all who knew her. A special thanks to Camilla's family and especially to Owen for giving us this wonderful memorial for a person so dear to our church.

Guy Humphrey with contribution from Robin Pendery and Paul Gibby.

GIVING TREE TIME HAS ARRIVED



Once again, MAPC will be helping out clients of the St. George Food Pantry with our annual Giving Tree. The tree will appear with about 120 tags on it in mid November. The tags will be for adults and children both. In recent years, St. George has needed more help with gifts for adult men and adult women.

Every year it is great to see how each week the packages grow and grow under the tree until they are removed in mid December to be distributed at the Food Pantry.

There will be a handout sheet with more specific information available in Church and reminders in the Sunday bulletins. For further information or to make a cash donation, contact Deacon John Wegener at 871-1902 or Deacon Luise Thomas at 421-9636 or Dan Parsley at 281-9840.

THANK YOU FOR HELPING OUT WITH THE GIVING TREE!!!!!!

FINAL RESTORATION OF OUR STAINED GLASS WINDOWS

In mid September, the final installation of our beautiful stained glass windows was completed. This completes over a year long process of restoring our windows. It was back in 1998 when I first began interviewing studios to repair our windows. I never thought that we would ever be able to undertake such a huge restoration project. So last year I was so pleased to learn that the extensive restoration work would be made possible with a generous donation from the Rosevear Family.

This past August, I had the opportunity to visit the stained glass studio (Rohlf's Stained Glass Studio in Mt. Vernon, New York) to see our windows being restored by a team of professional artesians. It was very interesting to see the various stages the windows go through in the process of restoration. The work involved disassembling every piece of glass and lead. This is a lengthy and difficult job done completely by hand. Several of the damaged painted faces in the Sower Window (rear window) have been restored back to their original condition. Many of the fine details in the windows are now visible once again.

While in New York visiting the studio, I was able to obtain documentation that our beautiful windows are indeed from the Tiffany Studios of New York City. The Mt. Auburn Presbyterian church windows are listed in the book 'List of Tiffany Windows' First Edition 1910. This is information that we have been looking for many years. The studio has also committed that they have not seen windows with so much applied decorative metal filigree work. Our windows are indeed special.

I suggest that everyone take a moment to look closely at the restored windows. I guarantee that you will find things you have not seen before. In an upcoming church wide celebration we will highlight all the wonderful renovation work at our church including the restoration of our wonderful

stained glass windows. It has been a great honor and pleasure for me to have helped restore the legacy of our beautiful stained glass windows.

Guy Humphrey

REMEMBRANCES OF OCTOBER FESTIVAL CHOIR 2009

The day of the concert was pure October - leaves beginning to turn, skies clear blue, and just a little nip in the air: a foretaste of the coming fall. This would be the 8th annual concert that had started as the finale of the series of concert/recitals called the *Year of the Organ* that had celebrated the installation of the Holtkamp organ in Mt. Auburn's beautiful and historic sanctuary. Eight years prior, the event had hosted guest conductor and world famous organist Phillip Brunelle from the twin cities in Minnesota. As we did then, this October we assembled a "Festival Chorus" from choirs all around the Tri-State; from churches to secular singing societies. And also, like this first event, I had prepared the choir so a guest conductor could come in, and in two rehearsals or so over a weekend "wrap up the package and make it purty".

This year our guest conductor was Dr. Betsy Burleigh. I had met Betsy nearly 15 years prior at a summer conference in Youngstown for the American Choral Director's Association's Ohio chapter. I remember, after a day of workshops and music review/reading sessions, there was a time in the evening for Gemutlichkeit, i.e. informal exchanges of ideas, opinions and dreams over beer. After that first meeting, I knew that she was the genuine article - real musician/true human being; full of wit and compassion with wry smile and a twinkle in her big blue eyes. Little did I know that a few years later I'd be one of ten conductors in a week long intense study with Robert Page (then assistant conductor of the Pittsburgh Symphony and conductor of the Pittsburgh Symphony Chorus) that was held at Cleveland State and hosted by Betsy Burleigh and the music faculty there. In that

week we renewed our acquaintance and that's how she came to lead the choir just a few weeks ago. (Let me say that Betsy remembers this sequence of events differently; but the point is that a connection was made).

Conductors like Betsy are rare - she hears and immediately adjusts; knowing not only what the problem is, but applying solutions to remedy the problem at hand. She has the gift of positive reinforcement from the podium and also the knowledge and zeal to bring all singers not just to the music, but to musicality which is more like finding the truth and essence of something by refining its smallest parts. Betsy allowed us to soar and achieve her level of understanding, showing us the importance of word rhythms, phrasing, and the utter joy that comes from ensemble singing. Her love and understanding of Haydn in turn gave us a deeper understanding and commitment to a composer whose music was alive and breathing.

Speaking of the music, the program opened with a rousing rendition of a hymn from the shaped-note tradition arranged by Alice Parker, *Hark, I Hear the Harps Eternal* followed by a new work by Rick Sowash, dedicated to John Tallmadge called *The Endless Tapestry*. It was a privilege to program this piece. I recall going to Rick's house last year when the piece was in its nascent phase and having him proclaim that his was "my finest effort to date in the choral genre!" It was great to see other people's reaction in rehearsal and performance of this new work and I felt personal pride in having such a wonderful composer as a friend. The featured work on the program was one of the last six masses by Haydn, known as the *Theresa Mass*. There is much speculation as to why Haydn stopped his symphonic output to write six masses, but all agree that these pieces are symphonic in architecture and design and are among his greatest achievements. The grace, arch, scope, chromaticism and setting of the *Theresa Mass* showed a composer at the height of his creativity and power. It was scored for a string orchestra which I re-

arranged for piano, organ, string bass and winds. It featured, prominently, a fabulous quartet of CCM rising stars, including our own Haley Sicking. Betsy was flawless and unflappable in her direction, leading the singers to what many have recalled to me as an out-of-body moment of timeless ecstasy. Not what folks usually say about old Papa Haydn!

Back to the concert, the church was nearly at capacity and just after the last note erupted into a spontaneous standing ovation. All that being said, an event like the OFC isn't just about the music. Indeed, planning for the concert began a year before (I'd actually contacted Betsy 6 years ago). There was a lovely reception that couldn't have happened without lots of folks; the point people being Adrienne and Cate. I think the new floor in the social Hall had just been installed a few days before. Thanks to all who had a hand in every part of the planning and preparation, especially angels Beth Troendly (who accompanied every choral rehearsal) and coordinator supreme Betty Porter, who possesses among other talents the gift of dotting "i's" and crossing "t's".

Let me close with a note from Betsy:

Hi Chris, Beth & Betty

I'm still glowing from the wonderful weekend of music we shared, and just wanted to say a big thank you for inviting me to be a part of your wonderful festival! Chris, you did a superb job preparing the chorus-- but I know it takes so much more than choral prep to put together such a great festival. So here's a big thanks to you and your 'team' for all the little things so needed to make events like this a success-- coming up w/ parts and a workable orchestration, hiring the players, finding & rehearsing soloists, publicizing, websites, setting up the reception, etc.. etc. Betty, thanks for a delightful dinner-- I so enjoyed your home, your husband, your cooking and your guests-- what a lovely evening! And thanks, too, for all the arrangements to make my stay so comfortable. Beth, thanks for providing the

e-mail conduit (!-- behind every great man..) and for being such a terrific accompanist-- you made my job so easy!

You've got a magical thing going, it was a privilege to be a part of the event! If you are in contact w/ the singers, please pass on my congratulations and gratitude!

*Love to you all,
Betsy*

WORKDAY SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7TH WE NEED YOU.

You may not know that MAPC has NO paid maintenance staff. We have a contract cleaning service but volunteers do all the repairs, maintenance and general upkeep. This is why we desperately need everyone, who possibly can, to lend a hand. Our next **workday will be Saturday November 7th** with the main goal of getting trees planted on the Taft Road side of the connector. This will be the first step in the process of landscaping the whole area after the electrical work removed most of the plantings. There are also many small and large tasks for all skill levels including several painting jobs that don't require a ladder. As usual, we'll get started around 9:00 a.m. with coffee and donuts and we'll try to wrap up after lunch, rain or shine. You don't have to commit to the entire time: come when you can and leave when you need to! Contact Eric Burgmann – 513 731 9496 or eburgmann@cinci.rr.com with any questions.

MAPC SHOPPING DAY AT TEN THOUSAND VILLAGES

On Sunday November 15th, right after our traditional Stewardship luncheon, MAPC member will have another chance to impact our world. Ten Thousand Villages in O'Bryonville is a fair trade store working with artisans in over 30 developing countries to ensure that they receive a fair wage for their goods. On November 15th MAPC will

receive 15% of all sales made by our members at Ten Thousand Villages. Your

Church and Society Committee will use these additional monies to further our local mission work. Here is your chance to jumpstart your personal Christmas shopping, help artisans globally, and assist in local mission work—all in one easy way!! Ten Thousand Villages is a delight all year long, but especially at Christmas, when nativity crèches ornaments and garlands complement the always eclectic stock. Let your purchases make a big difference—save November 15th, 1:00-5:00 pm, to shop at Ten Thousand Villages. See Barbara Feldmann for more information or to ask any questions.

**Mt. Washington Presbyterian
Church Presents: Ursula
Goodenough
Alton Jenkins Memorial Lecture
Series**

Internationally recognized cell biologist, author and lecturer, Ursula Goodenough, is the inaugural speaker for a new lecture series at Mt. Washington Presbyterian Church on Saturday November 21. Known for her writing that knits science, nature and spirituality into a unified worldview, Goodenough will present two different lectures.

10:30 AM Are you a Religious Naturalist without Knowing It, followed by a Q&A session

Noon Break-box lunch provided (\$10.00)

1:00 PM Darwin and the Sacred, followed by a Q&A session

Reservations Required. For additional information or registration: Phone 513-231-2650, email: mwpc-cincinnati-presbyterian-church.org

OPEN STACKS BOOK CLUB –



Join us on December 4th, 2009 at 7:00 PM at the home of Hal and Betty Porter, 4160 Paddock Road, Cincinnati, 45229 to discuss Bill Muse's book, *The Seventh Muse*. (Please note that this book had been scheduled and had to be cancelled several times prior to this event.)

The discussion of Bill's book will be an animated discussion of his memoir and his rise in academe to become the President of Akron University and Auburn University, his involvement in the Fuller Foundation, and his involvement in the Kettering Foundation, among other activities.

Please join us on December 4, 2009 at the home of Hal and Betty Porter. For directions please call them at 513-861-5996. We hope to see you there.

P.S. Joseph Beth no longer carries Bill's book. Please contact Bill, directly, if you do not yet have a copy of his book at 513-489-1260 or via e-mail at wmuse@fuse.net

**INTERFAITH HOSPITALITY
NETWORK: DECEMBER 18 AND
19:**

Mount Auburn Presbyterians are a support congregation for St. Monica/St. George hosting families who have lost their homes. **MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW!** We will all have many other things that we want to do as the Christmas holidays approach. But, nothing could be more valuable than sharing the lives of families who have lost so much. We need 16 to 20 volunteers to provide meals, companionship, and activities to the families. Sign up by emailing Pat Timm at pztimm@me.com or calling her at 859-360-7552. The dinner shift is from 4:45 to 6:30, the evening shift is from 6:30 to 9:00. No experience necessary.