

The Salt Of The Earth

June 2010

Issue 5



Ohio Conference

I really enjoyed Church Conference this year. (For once I don't feel like I did anything drastically embarrassing.) And because it seems like as I grow older, the more I enjoy the teaching that goes on there. We didn't stay there the whole time, but just the same I left feeling like I had taken a long, cool drink of water. Coming home so filled with ideas leaves it a challenge to apply what you heard to your life.

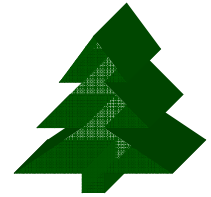
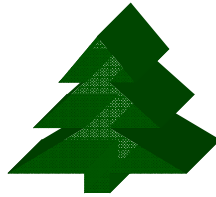
And of course, social bug that I am, I loved having so many people around to meet and talk to. Even if it rains or is too hot or too cold, being surrounded by believers in Christ is almost like being in heaven on earth. It seems a bit strange though, when it's time to leave the place. You pull out of that safe haven and into reality. It's like, "Oh yeah, duh! I actually have to **pay** for my food out here!" or, "Whew! That was close! I almost forgot and greeted the lady at the Walmart check out."

God is wonderful though isn't he? When I try to think of what I learned and how I have grown because of Conference I can only think that it inspired my love of God. He is awesome and powerful and holy! PRAISE THE LORD FOR HE IS GOD!!!

Please send in your articles for the next issue by August 1st.

And that is to:

Maddy Brock at brockfam7@g-mail.com



I'm hoping this isn't too late to inform you about this, either that or it's not too late but you all already know..... July 3rd-8th all you youth that are 14 and up are invited to head out to Colorado and spend a few days learning about God and of course meeting up with your friends and meeting people. There are Registration and Health forms that can be downloaded from www.dunkardbrethrenchurch.com under the Retreat/Camp Colorado tabs. Then just drop them in the mail with a registration fee of \$150.00 to Youth Retreat 2010; 2420 Castle Rock Road, Quinter, Kansas 67752. Call Brad Wertz if you have any questions at (785) 673-3242 or (785) 754-3391.

Inside This Issue:

Interview	2
Be A Light	3
Reaching Out	4
Another Retreat	4
I'm A Nurse	5
Struggles	5

I just wanted to say a quick thanks to all the people who have encouraged me to keep up the work on this newsletter. It seems like everywhere I go I get people telling me to not grow weary with this thing and many times I've found a short e-mail that really lifted my spirits. I just don't want you to think that your words were fruitless. I really appreciate it. Sometimes this old girl needs a mood lift. I thank God every day for such wonderful friends.



Hello From Washington!

An interview by Maddy Brock with Becky Deaton, Zilla, WA

Q: What made you decide to start the Zilla church?

A: We were searching for a church with Biblical principals and felt that the Dunkard Brethren church fit our beliefs.

Q: How long have you been meeting?

A: We have been meeting for about one year.

Q: How many people do you have attending?

A: There are about thirty in attendance, including children.

Q: Do many of the people in your congregation come from a Dunkard Brethren background?

A: Most of our group was not originally Dunkard Brethren.

Q: Where do you meet for services?

A: We meet in a building we purchased in Granger, Washington. We are in the final stages of renovating the upper level of the building and are using it for services.

Q: Are there any ways that your church is reaching out to the community?

A: We hope to start a once-a-month breakfast and Sunday School time for the children in the local community. The city of Granger is mostly Hispanic people and we feel there is a great opportunity to reach out to the families who live there.

Q: Is there anything you would like to share with those who read this newsletter?

A: We would like to express our thanks and appreciation for all the prayers and support we have received through the past year. God has shown His faithfulness in many ways, and we praise Him for all that He has given us. We will trust Him for the future!



This is not a real photo, but an artist's rendering of the exterior of our church.

A Shining Light

By Maddy Brock, Pleasant Ridge, OH



It's late. I'm tired. I stumble through the dark living room demolishing several of my brother's LEGO creations, stepping on a little metal airplane, and continuing to the stairs hopping on one foot and loudly whispering, "Ow, ow, ow, **ow!**" Am I frugally saving electricity? Or am I just not thinking? In painful desperation I decide that maybe turning on the light would help. I come to the foot of the stairs and flick the light switch. Nothing happens and I remain in darkness. Does the hall light need a new bulb? Nope! If you would skip ahead several hours you would see that the light comes on perfectly fine the next morning. Strange as it seems that light only turns on in the daytime. At night when you really need it, it plays dead. I continue up the stairs in the dark, slip on the book my sister left there, and take a good tumble, only stopping at the bottom where I can't fall any further. It's really late. I'm really tired. And now I'm really sore.

This is a true story. And yes, we do have a light that won't turn on after dark. The useless thing is pictured on the left. I don't know where old Offy picked up his little quirk, but it's most annoying. Sometimes I wonder why he does that. Of course there's probably some complicated explanation to his electrical flaw, but I like to think of Offy as having a mind of his own. In the daytime he always turns on because the light he gives off kind of blends with the sunshine and he doesn't stand out. Everything is bright and everyone is happy.



When night comes, Offy's light makes a difference. People can see. They don't fall and they can walk around safely. It makes people notice Offy because he stands out in the darkness. Being a light is hard work because he gets hot and tired. And sometimes Offy doesn't like to get noticed. "It makes me uncomfortable," he grumbled. "I'm the only one around here who makes light! Everybody

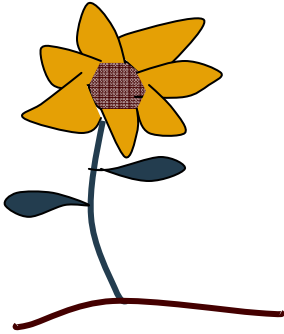
else is in the dark, so why can't I be? Darkness isn't so bad." As the sun crept into the sky that morning, Offy was turned off for the day and he made up his mind that he wasn't going to turn on that evening. And he didn't. "No one will care," Offy whispered to himself. "I don't make a difference. No one will even notice."

Do you think I noticed when I took an unplanned dive for the carpet? Do you think the unsaved will notice when they take an unexpected plummet into everlasting fire? I doubt that I need to further explain the analogy. Don't be like Offy.

It's hard to be a light. You won't be like everybody else. You'll stand out like a sunflower in a trash pile. Light draws people. It might draw people who are sin laden and battered from a hard life. It might bring people who are a little rough. It's easy to shine when you are with other Christians, but it is when you are surrounded by darkness that you really need to light things up.

Matthew 5:16 says: *Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.*





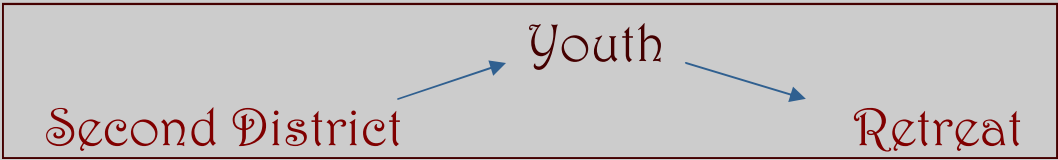
Reaching Out In The Community

By Teresa St. John, Pleasant Ridge OH

Recently our youth group participated in a new venture. We took a package of cookies and an invitation to our Revival Meetings, and went door to door inviting the community to attend the services. Before heading out we divided up into groups and had prayer.

Each group encountered different responses, but for the most part it was positive. My group had one that declined the cookies and the invitation, but many were very appreciative. At several places, the elderly ladies that lived there asked us if we wanted to come in. I could tell they just needed someone to visit with them, so we went in and talked for a bit. I hope it was a blessing to them. They seemed to enjoy having us there.

We weren't sure how many, if any, would come to the services, but I believe it let them know that they were welcome and that we cared about them. It stretched me out of my comfort zone a bit and that was good for me. Hopefully I will be a little bolder about sharing the Gospel with others in the future. There were several that came to the Revival Meetings as a result of our efforts and that was exciting. It was a start and you never know where God will take it from here. I was very blessed and encouraged by this experience. My prayer is that each one of us would find ways to reach out and tell others about our Saviour.

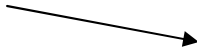


No this isn't the same as THE Youth Retreat this is the Second District Youth Retreat. This one's in Michigan. Good news for all you 13-year-olds! You can go to this one! It's going to be held at Camp Gaylon in Hart, Michigan from July 23rd-25th. And it's \$15.00 per person. Your registration is due by June 30th. They say they'll be doing some sight seeing in the area along with some other activities.

Bring along your gear for some primitive camping, some cabin space is available. Activities will be starting Friday evening at 4p.m. with registration and continue through Sunday afternoon. Chaperons will be provided. Special arrangements can be made if you wish to stay through Sunday night.

Join the 2nd District youth for a spiritually refreshing weekend!

Watch out for furry visitors!



Yes, I Am A Nurse

By Katelyn Dye, Little Kutztown Chapel, PA

Yes... I am a Nurse

But it is not about the size of my paycheck, but rather about the size of my heart for hurting people.

Yes... I am a Nurse

But it does not matter how many credentials I have after my name as it does that I am making a difference in the Name of Christ.

Yes... I am a Nurse

But it does not matter if I hold a prestigious position in a renowned hospital or if I am serving a forgotten people in an obscure jungle village.

Yes... I am a Nurse

But it is not about how much knowledge I have accumulated, but rather if I am willing to put that knowledge into humble practice to bring healing to my patients.

Yes... I am a Nurse

But it is not about my career or my recognition; instead, I am a nurse because God has given me a passion to make a difference in the lives of those who need it the most both in body and spirit.

Yes.... I am a Nurse ~ and today we celebrate all nurses who dedicate themselves to their work "as unto the Lord"!!!!



I'd Like To Share My Struggles

Anonymous

I'd like to share some of the struggles I faced in my Christian life. It may be that others of you can relate to what I'm about to share. **When I became a Christian, it wasn't necessarily because I wanted to.** First of all I was scared of dying, and second I also felt guilty because other kids my age had already made their decision to follow Christ. I talked to my dad and he prayed with me, but when my family told me how happy they were I was mostly embarrassed. They also encouraged me to develop a routine of daily devotions. But up to this point I had never done any devotions, so I really had no clue of how to go about it. Needless to say, I kind of lagged in that area.

The next few years were rough for me. **I had doubts about my salvation** and I never seemed to have complete peace. I started to get depressed. Then I drew away from my friends, secluding myself as much as possible. **I could barely stand to sit in church,** and found myself zoning out during the service. I was basically just going through the motions and I wondered if anyone knew or cared. I'm not exactly sure where my turning point was, but I did get some help, for which I am very thankful! Things are going much better for me in my spiritual life and **I know that God will never let me down.**

My purpose in sharing this is that I know how alone I felt and how it seemed like I was the only one who had ever faced those struggles. But I've since realized that's not true. I've talked to people who's story could've been mine. I think a lot of Christians deal with doubt about their salvation. No matter what it is you're going through, just know you're not alone. I would definitely encourage you to talk to someone rather than holding it all in. **Remember,** God will never leave you or forsake you. **You may give up on yourself, but God will keep pursuing you.** I'd also encourage you to watch out for your friends. Notice when they're down, even if they say they're fine. I'm not saying to pry and press to make sure they're doing okay, but be a listening ear and the type of person you friends know they can always go to. You'd be amazed how such small things can mean so much! God bless.