

Epicenter gives you the headlines before they happen. **Epicenter** explains what is happening in the Middle East and how it will impact you. This is the next book for the Ladies' Reading Fellowship. We will be meeting at Common Grounds in Bluffton on Thursday, March 19, at 7:00 p.m. The book is in the church library and the author is Joel C. Rosenberg. If you want a paperback edition please notify Angela Steiner by Thursday, January 15.

Ladies' Bible Study will be beginning Wednesday, February 4. We will begin an in-depth study looking at Daniel's life as he faced the same kind of pressures and temptations Christians encounter today and also some thrilling Biblical prophecy. Come join us on Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m., in Room B17, for *Daniel: Lives of Integrity, and Words of Prophecy*, by Beth Moore. Please let Rhonda Thompson, 567-204-2384 know if interested. We need to order books, yes homework, but no grades!

A Grand New Day 2009 Event: There are a limited number of tickets available for the Women of Faith Conference which will be held in Columbus on April 24 & 25. The tickets are floor seats toward the center. To secure yours please contact Angela Steiner at 419-643-8260 or e-mail at angelasteiner@embarqmail.com.

With the move to the Crossroads Ministry Center (CMC) there are some pieces of equipment which will make the facility more worship service friendly. Some specific pieces of equipment are video projection equipment (\$19,459) and a portable stage (\$4,780). If you would like to give a gift for these upgrades, please mark your giving envelope **Transition Equipment**. Feel free to speak with Trustee Chairman, Lynn Lehman, or technicians, Greg Luginbill and Marvin Foster, with further questions. **Also, please contact Randy Garmatter** to volunteer to help with CMC set-up and tear-down.

~ COOKIES NEEDED FOR SIM TRIP ~

Just dough or unbaked balls/logs preferred, but will also be taking baked ones (they just take more room and don't stay fresh as long) or boxes of brownie or cookie mixes. Please leave in the church kitchen marked plainly for SIM. Please note that the missions trip is earlier this year so we will need the cookies before the first of February. Thank you very much! – *Ginny Moser*

Flowers for the Crossroads Ministry Center: Please sign your name on the new Flower Calendar in the Missions Center if you would be interested in supplying an arrangement for our Worship Gatherings in 2009.

Please notice: A large rocking chair is needed for the Children's Ministries. Please contact the church office if you have one that would be available.

Please give your attention: When borrowing items from the church kitchen please fill out the equipment sign out sheet and return clean items to the kitchen.

2009 Birthday/Anniversary Calendars are ready and available on the table in the Crossroads Ministry Center and in the rack in the Missions Center.

Thank you so much for your prayers for me as I went through my recent surgery. It was a success and I can feel the good results already. I also want to thank Pastor Dick and Kathy Brauen for their encouragement on the day of surgery. It is comforting to have the loving support of our church family. - *Seth Bixel*

I want to say thank you to all the faithful prayers. My surgery in December was the first surgery that I wasn't sick with nausea and that was nothing short of a miracle. Praise God! Thanks to Kathy for the words of encouragement before surgery and to our friends for all their help! - *Richly Blessed, Donna Dukes*

► UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES ◀

- Jan. 26** **MOPS** (9:00 a.m., FH)
- Jan. 30-Feb.1** Senior High Winter Retreat (Miracle Camp)
- Feb. 1-7** SIM Missions Trip (Charlotte, NC)
- Feb. 7** Living Faith Class (7:00 p.m., Lima Rescue Home)
- Feb. 18** Congregational Meeting (7:00 p.m., Sanctuary)
- Mar. 7** Senior High/Agape Class (7:00 p.m., Lima Rescue Home)
- Mar. 14** Men's Fellowship Breakfast (7:30 a.m., FH)
- Mar. 29** Hymn Sing (7:00 p.m., Sanctuary)
- Apr. 4** Ambassador Class (7:00 p.m., Lima Rescue Home)
- Apr. 18** Wild Game Event (5:00 p.m., CMC)
- May 2** Berean Class (7:00 p.m., Lima Rescue Home)



EBENEZER

Emissary Weekly

January 11, 2009

Opportunities of the Day

- 9:00 a.m.** Adult Bible Fellowship
Sunday School (2-year-olds – High School)
- 10:00 a.m.** The Good News Hour (2-year-olds-K, Room B10)
- 10:15 a.m.** Worship Gathering – Pastor Jim King (CMC)
- 11:30 a.m.** Worship Team Carry-in Lunch (FH)
- 6:30 p.m.** Children's Choir (Grades 1-6, Rooms 118-119)
- 7:00 p.m.** Evening Fellowship Service (Sanctuary)
Cherub Choir (2-year-old – K, Room 105)
Junior & Senior High School Small Groups

Please remember to pray for our Junior High Students and sponsors who will be traveling back home today from Winter Retreat: Freddie Cherry, Josiah Conley, Kyla Dawson, Michael & Matt Deeter, Nathan Diller, Tessa Diller, Brandon Doyle, Bronwyn Greer, Kyle Huber, Molly Moser, McKenna Reneker, Delaney Reineke, Madison Schantz, Andrew Schutz, Mike Sheehan, Josiah Wallace, Alyssa Willow. Sponsors are: Mark Brauen, Cody Fields, Krista Lehman, Quinn Schantz, and Pastor Wade & Hannah Slechter.

In the Hospital: Donna Steiner, Bluffton Hospital.

Scheduled Surgery: Steve Burkholder, tomorrow Blanchard Valley Hospital.

Missionaries of the Week: David & Marjory Patrick serve at South Africa Union Bible Institute with TEAM. They are thankful for the UBI end of the year activities. Pray for new students who need provisions for the 2009 school year. The term begins January 26. Please send an encouraging note to them at dave.marjayahoo.com.

Attendance and Giving

Attendance on January 4:

Sunday School & ABF	(9:00 a.m.)	361
Worship Gathering	(10:15 a.m.)	410
Evening Fellowship Service	(7:00 p.m.)	120

Giving on January 4:

	<u>\$14,787.82</u>
Benevolent Fund	230.00
Building Fund	730.00
Christian Education Fund	467.18
Current Expense Fund	5,286.64
Missions Fund	6,064.00
New Building Fund	2,010.00

<i>Memorials for Marcele Diller – Building Fund</i>	367.00
<i>– New Build Fund</i>	25.00

Missions Giving –

\$320 to Findlay Area Youth for Christ to help Lyn Loewen attend DC 2009

\$400 to AIM Int. for Rod Kraybill Car Fund

\$300 to Campus Crusade for Christ for Brad Dukes Special Need

Missionary Updates: Copies of letters received in December from the following missionaries are available in the Missions Center underneath the large world map – *Neil & Meredi Bittle, Brad & Debbie Dukes, Margaret Edmondson, Don & Brenda Ernst, Barb & Ed Friedman, Tim & Tiffany Gallant, David & Mary Glick, Rod & Lori Kraybill, Andy & Pam LaBreche, Phil & Deb Leach, Don & Ann Leader, Steve & Carol Lehman, Dave & JoAnn Loewen, Lyn & Lori Loewen, Joel & Nada Mathai, Gary & Pearl Nussbaum, David & Marjory Patrick, Daniel & Lynn Plett, Dan Reisacher, Scott & Nikki Russell, Rick & Pat Shaner, Nick & Debbie Siemens, Chuck & Naomi Smith, Bonnie Spallinger, and Joe & Jeanie Stucky.*

Evening Fellowship Service at 7:00 in the Sanctuary we are studying the book of Habakkuk. With all the crises before us, such as the economic crisis, the loss of moral principles, the encroachment of government into almost every aspect of life, and the squeezing of God out of the public arena, we will find the book of Habakkuk very applicable today. Join us as we search for and find some answers that refocus us on the Lord and how to live in this environment.

Opportunities of the Week: January 12-18

Monday - Friday 7:30 a.m. Walking Program – CMC

Monday	9:00 a.m. <i>MOPS (FH)</i>
	6:30 p.m. Ladies' Walking Program
	7:00 p.m. Christian Education Com. Meeting <i>(FH)</i>
Tuesday	6:15 a.m. Men's Bible Study <i>(FH)</i>
	6:30 p.m. Ladies' Walking Program
	8:00 p.m. Ebenezer 2 Men's Basketball Game <i>(CMC)</i>
Wednesday	9:00 a.m. Game Time <i>(FH)</i>
	6:00 p.m. Wednesday Night Supper <i>(CMC)</i>
	7:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study & Prayer <i>(112)</i>
	Children's Ministry <i>(ages 2-grade 6)</i>
	Ladies' Bible Study <i>(B17)</i>
	Men's Bible Study <i>(115)</i>
	Music Ministry Rehearsal <i>(Choir Loft)</i>
	Prayer Group Meet <i>(114)</i>
	Small Group Meet <i>(Pastor Jim's home)</i>
Thursday	6:30 p.m. Ladies' Walking Program
	7:00 p.m. Deacon Meeting <i>(FH)</i>
	Open Gym <i>(CMC)</i>
Sunday	9:00 a.m. Sunday School & ABF <i>(Various classrooms)</i>
	10:00 a.m. The Good News Hour <i>(ages 2-K, B10)</i>
	10:15 a.m. Worship Gathering <i>(CMC)</i>
	5:00 p.m. Chili Festival <i>(CMC)</i>

~ Helpers for Sunday, January 18 ~

Nursery: Jessica Amstutz, Susan Bixel, Leah Eiden, Bob & Patty Geiger, Donita Luginbill, Joy & Alexis Moser

The Good News Hour: Arlene Garmatter, Cindy & Molly Moser, Andrea Spallinger

All seniors are invited to attend a free breakfast with entertainment by the BHS Strings this Wednesday, January 14, at 8:30 a.m. at the Bluffton Middle School Cafetorium.

TODAY'S GREETERS

Steve & Doneta Reigle, *Missions Center*
Bob & Patty Geiger, *Crossroads Ministry Center*

Plan now to join us for our annual Chili Festival & Wacky Talent Night

Next Sunday, January 18, at 5:00 p.m.
In the Crossroads Ministry Center

For a fun evening with lots of great homemade chili!

Please bring: ☺ A salad or dessert to share.

☺ A toiletry or cleaning item to share with the
Community Assistance Program *(Ex: shampoo,
deodorant, laundry detergent, toilet paper, etc.)*

☺ **A FRIEND!!**

You are invited to a Ribbon Cutting and 35th Anniversary Open House. The Et Cetera Thrift Shop and Ten Thousand Villages will be open Sunday, January 18, 2009 from 2:00-4:00. The date marks the actual date that the thrift store opened 35 years ago. For more information please see the bulletin board in the Missions Center. Refreshments will be offered.

Campus Life Meal Deal, Friday, January 23, from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. Meal includes a quarter pound hot dog or large BBQ pork sandwich, bowl of homemade soup, chips, cookie, and drink. \$5.00 suggested donation. Meal will be held at the Campus Life Room in Bluffton. You may carry out or dine in.

Address Change: Emerson & Helen Diller have moved into an independent living home at Hilty Memorial Home. Their new address is 414 Friend Court, Pandora, OH 45877, and their phone number is 419-384-3026.

Year-end reports and proposed budgets for 2009 are due on Sunday, January 25. All boards and committees should submit their annual reports for 2008 and proposed budgets for 2009 to the church office for inclusion in the 2008 Annual Report. The annual congregational business meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 18.