

CHRONICLER

Cape Girardeau, Missouri

www.evangelicalucc-cape.org

May 2009

Beautiful Hospitality

The first time I walked out the back door of the Carron Hall Church and saw the mountains of Jamaica stretched out in front of me, I just had to say that word, “beautiful” out loud. The combination of the sky and the lush green tropical landscape was almost overwhelming. “Beautiful” was the best word I could use to describe Jamaica, not just its landscape, but also its people. However, after a few days working and living at Carron Hall, I had to add another word to my description: “hospitality.” They

welcomed us into their homes, cooked for us, drove us wherever we needed to go, and overall took very good care of us.

The beauty of Jamaica and its people was not remote and distant. I was living in that landscape with those people, and they were more friendly, generous and open than I had ever imagined. In fact, it was a shock when we came down off the mountains

for our time of R&R in Montego Bay. The closed faces of the Americans and Europeans, grimly determined to have fun, were a sharp contrast to the relaxed and open faces of the Jamaicans, even including many of the Jamaicans making a living off the tourists.

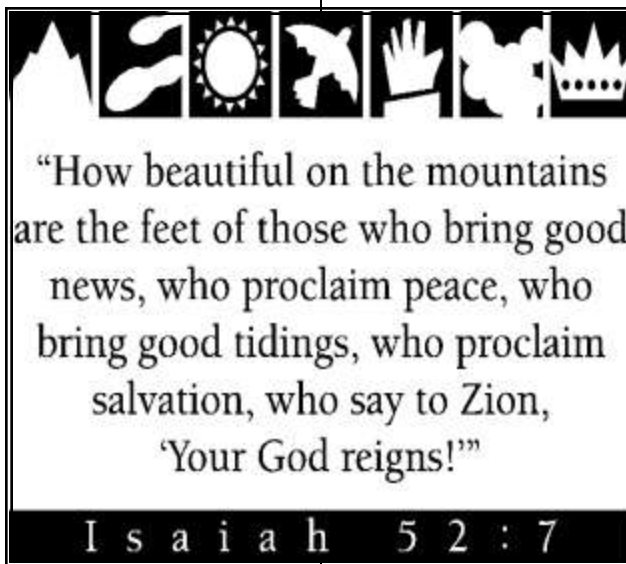
One of the things I really valued about the Jamaican Christian Medical Mission was the sharp and clear division between the time we were doing our mission work at Carron Hall and our couple of days playing tourist in Montego Bay. I found that I felt much more comfortable in the role of pharmacy assistant than I did in the role of tourist. I had a feeling that the tourist industry with its beautiful beaches and modern resorts is not really part of the “real” Jamaica, the

everyday life of Jamaicans when the tourists are not around. However, the tourist industry is a big part of how many Jamaicans make their living. Down on the beach, one of the “unauthorized vendors” explained to me how hard they try to make carvings, necklaces, and other souvenirs that are just what the tourists want. To me those souvenirs were a caricature of Jamaica as a land of nonstop sunshine, alcohol, and reggae music. However, some Jamaicans, just like some Americans, really do like to “party.”

When you travel to a country either to give out pills or buy souvenirs, it is easy to be stuck in a mutually suspicious relationship where the locals see you as a means to an end. It is also easy to see them as “poor” and needing either your help or your money. I was pleasantly surprised to find that in Jamaica it is often easy to get past that mutual exploitative relationship

and start dealing with him or her as one human being to another human being. This was true of the folks up in the mountains. It was also true of the “unauthorized vendors” down at the resort, all of whom seemed to be sincerely moved when they heard why we had come to Jamaica.

The greeting popular in Jamaica, at least down in the tourist zones, is “respect.” Even though there are problems with crime and violence in Jamaica, especially in the capital city of Kingston, most Jamaicans strive to treat others, including tourists, with respect. One sign of this is an extraordinary civility of speech. I cannot remember hearing a single swear word the whole time I was in Jamaica. You would be surprised how refreshing it is to go a week without hearing



Continued From Page 1

a single 4-letter word, something increasingly rare in our country. Of course, I might have missed some and I cannot understand what the Jamaicans are saying when they switch to their fast-moving patois dialect. However, from my point of view, the respect that most Jamaicans have for each other and for their visitors was just as valuable as their warm smiles and friendly greetings.

You might ask what I could have in common with the folks in Jamaica. Well, beyond some of the basics of being a human being, we shared a deep love of God, especially of Jesus. This was true of the folks who came to Carron Hall for treatment, many of whom do not attend church there. It was passionately and vibrantly true of the folks at the tiny church in Cedar Valley, way up in the hills, where I preached on Sunday. It came across in the beautiful hymn singing we did together, even if we had only one hymnal to share and only two tambourines for accompaniment. I was also surprised to find that same love of God in some of the **“unauthorized vendors” on the beach.**

We have recently had a pointless debate in this country over whether the USA is a **“Christian country.”** From my experience, Jamaica is definitely a Christian country. Not only is it a Christian country, but it is a country where many denominations are represented, not only our sister United Church, but also Anglicans, Catholics and increasing numbers of 7th Day Adventists. The recent appointment of a 7th Day Adventist Pastor to the ceremonial, yet prominent post of Governor General has sparked an active discussion on the relationship of the

Church and State in Jamaica. However, my experience in Jamaica was that the Church and its associated schools and agencies remain a fundamental pillar of Jamaican society. Love of God seems to be something I share in common with Jamaicans of all lifestyles and religions, including the **“far out” Rastafarians.** Jamaicans passionately love God, although love of playing cricket and dominoes, appear to be a close second and third, with music not far behind.

Living in an island paradise has some serious disadvantages. Notably, hurricanes come and blow the roof off your house and church on a regular basis. Water is in short supply and every drop of rainwater off the roof has to be collected in cisterns. Power outages are common and drivers have to maneuver around some amazingly deep potholes. Many of the Jamaicans coming to our clinic had high blood pressure and diabetes. I hope I am not patronizing the Jamaicans, but despite these problems, I feel that they deeply enjoy life on their island and they are deeply proud of their country—Jamaican flags and the national colors of black, yellow, and green are everywhere. We have so much more we can give Jamaica in medical help and in helping the United Church in Carron Hall meet the challenges of a changing world. However, I have lots to learn from the Jamaicans about enjoying life and loving God. Thank you so very much for sending me on the Jamaican Christian Medical Mission.

Your Friend in Christ,
—Pastor Dan



Correction - Women's Retreat

Ladies! Ladies! Ladies!

Calling all Friends, Neighbors, & Family!

Save the date June 10, 2009 @ 1:30 PM

For the Annual Women's Retreat

@ St. John's UCC — Fruitland, MO

For the Love of Mothers Everywhere

Answers given by 2nd grade school children to the following questions:

Why did God make mothers?

1. She's the only one who knows where the scotch tape is.
2. Mostly to clean the house.
3. To help us out of there when we were getting born.

How did God make mothers?

1. He used dirt, just like for the rest of us.
2. Magic plus super powers and a lot of stirring.
3. God made my Mom just the same like he made me. He just used bigger parts.

What ingredients are mothers made of ?

1. God makes mothers out of clouds and angel hair and everything nice in the world and one dab of mean.
2. They had to get their start from men's bones. Then they mostly use string, I think.

Why did God give you your mother and not some other mom?

1. We're related.
2. God knew she likes me a lot more than other people's moms like me.

What kind of little girl was your mom?

1. My Mom has always been my mom and none of that other stuff.
2. I don't know because I wasn't there, but my guess would be pretty bossy.
3. They say she used to be nice.

What did Mom need to know about dad before she married him?

1. His last name.
 2. She had to know his background. Like is he a crook? Does he get drunk on beer?
 3. Does he make at least \$800 a year?
- Did he say NO to drugs and YES to chores?

Why did your mom marry your dad?

1. My dad makes the best spaghetti in the world. And my Mom eats a lot.
2. She got too old to do anything else with him.
3. My grandma says that Mom didn't have her thinking cap on.

Who's the boss at your house?

1. Mom doesn't want to be boss, but she has to because dad's such a goof ball.
2. Mom. You can tell by room inspection. She sees the stuff under the bed.
3. I guess Mom is, but only because she has a lot more to do than dad.

What's the difference between moms & dads?

1. Moms work at work and work at home and dads just go to work at work.
2. Moms know how to talk to teachers without scaring them.
3. Dads are taller & stronger, but moms have all the real power 'cause that's who you got to ask if you want to sleep over at your friend's.
4. Moms have magic, they make you feel better without medicine.

What does your mom do in her spare time?

1. Mothers don't do spare time.
2. To hear her tell it, she pays bills all day long.

What would it take to make your mom perfect?

1. On the inside she's already perfect. Outside, I think some kind of plastic surgery.
2. Diet. You know, her hair. I'd diet, maybe blue.

If you could change one thing about your mom, what would it be?

1. She has this weird thing about me keeping my room clean. I'd get rid of that.
2. I'd make my mom smarter. Then she would know it was my sister who did it and not me.
3. I would like for her to get rid of those invisible



What's Going On?

Mary-Martha Circle

The Mary Martha Circle will meet on, Thursday, May 7th at 1:30 PM. Kaye Lee will read the devotions. Mary Ann Jordan and Meta Siemers are scheduled to be the Hostesses for the afternoon. All the ladies of the church are invited to attend.



ASAP Youth Group

Join us on Saturday, May 30th as we take a road trip to see the Meramec Caverns. We will depart on our own around 8:00 AM, gathering at the Caverns at 11:00 AM for the tour.

The tour last about 80 minutes, so grab a snack along the way. We will enjoy a picnic lunch together following the tour. Please bring your favorite picnic lunch, drinks and snacks for your group.

We will take the boat ride following lunch, then proceed to Maramac Springs to enjoy their area. Our day will then be over and we will head home on our own with supper being on your own. Check these websites for more details regarding activities and directions.

www.americascave.com

www.maramacspringpark.com



Road Trip

There are coupons available on the website for \$3.00 off the tour rate. We will be traveling in family groups, but all are invited to go. Please let Susan know if you are planning on going with us so we know how many are going, if you are driving, or need to ride with someone.

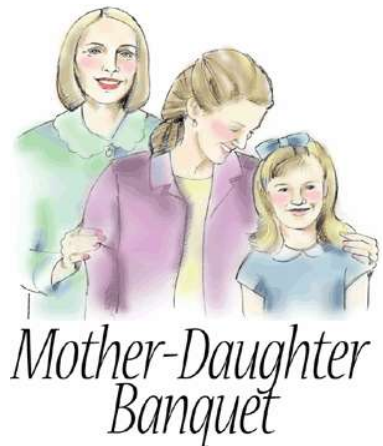
Since I have not been in years, I'm not sure we can fit everything in, but at this time this is the plan. Questions call the church office at 335-5611 or email Carolyn: best@americhicken.com.

Friendship Circle

The Friendship Circle's Mother Daughter Banquet will be on Tuesday, May 14th, starting at 6:30 PM. Everyone, member and non-member, mothers and daughters are invited to attend. Even if you only have sons or no children at all, **you are still someone's daughter!** So please invited everyone you know.

The Friendship Circle members are asked to bring 2 dishes. Examples are 1 vegetable / 1 dessert, or 1 salad / 1 dessert, or 1 vegetable / 1 salad. Fried Chicken and Ham will be provided and the men of our congregation will be washing dishes for us.

The evenings program will be provided by Carol Reimann with the help of the Entertainment Committee. It is sure to be an enjoyable evening for all involved.



Union of Concerned Christians

Sunday, May 17th, the UCC Group plans to leave at 1:30 PM and carpool from Evangelical Church to Altenburg, MO for a tour of the Trinity Lutheran Heritage Center & Museum. This should be interesting. The museum is free of charge. A donation box is available for a love gift. Carolyn Taylor's daughter, Carla Jordan, is the Curator of the museum.

After the tour we will go to the near by "Dip & Deli" restaurant for a bite to eat. This will be dutch treat. I understand, in the evening, they have deli sandwiches, pie, etc.

For this trip, I will need a head count so I can let the restaurant know how many to expect. Please call the Roloff's @ 335-3867 by Monday, May 11th. Thanks.



Memorials



With Deepest Sympathy

Memorial Fund

In Memory of
Robert & Sylvia Wachter
Gary & Clodine Metje

Scholarship Fund

In Memory of Bob Wachter
Calvin & Verla Sailer

Change of Address

Please make this change in your church directory.

“Doc” Matthews
660 S. Spring St., Apt A
Cape Girardeau, MO 63703

Thanks To You

Thanks from the Centenary Sweet Shots

On behalf of the Centenary Sweet Shots 6th Grade girls basketball team, I would like to thank you for allowing the girls to **practice in your churches gym when Centenary’s gym was occupied.**

The girls had a great season and a wonderful time, and your generosity in loaning us your gym helped make that happen.

May God continue to bless your church and its members. Thanks to Lisa and Sarah Elfrink and thanks again for your Christian support!

—Lori Trepasso

Thanks from Pursley Chiropractic

We want to thank you for allowing us to use your multi purpose room to set up for our Bake & Craft Sale on Saturday, April 4th **to benefit the American Cancer Society’s Relay for Life.** Even though we did not get any public foot traffic inside on Saturday, we did have brave ladies who stopped traffic outside on Ellis Street. We were able to raise \$160.75. The American Cancer Society is an important cause to us here and we really appreciate all your support.

Sincerely,
—The Staff of Pursley Chiropractic

Birthdays and Anniversaries

May Birthdays	
1 Maxine Hale	13 Elizabeth Turner
4 Pamela Phillips	14 Kevin Elfrink
6 Lillian Graden	18 Stephanie Vines
7 Mollie Lindsay	21 Dwight Powers
8 Janice Simpher	26 Jim Hale Greg Lindsay
10 Tommi Lantz Heather Lindsay Victoria Vines	28 Byron Moore
11 Michael Kirtley	30 Bettie Mehrle
12 Ernest Jordan Ida Mae Jordan	31 Melbert Daume


May Anniversaries	
18	Jose & Denise Izaguirre
21	S.G. & Grace Coy
22	Corky & Becky McCormack
24	Melbert & Jobyna Daume
26	Harvey & Darline Dow
29	Gary & Clodine Metje



Council Financial Report

Beginning Check Book	Balance 3-1-09	\$22,245.27
Deposits	March	\$6,560.17
	Interest	\$0.17
	Transfer Edward Jones	\$3,000.00
Total Deposits for March		\$9,6560.34
Disbursements	March	\$14,468.06
Ending Check Book	Balance 3-31-09	\$17,337.55
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Wachovia Securities/ A.G. Edwards {Memorial Fund}	Balance 3-1-09	\$12,568.00
	Interest	\$0.85
	Deposits	----
	Disbursements:	\$865.42
Ending Balance	As of 3-31-09	\$11,703.43
<hr/>		
Check Book Balance	As of 4-15-09	\$17,220.68

Calendar Information

2009	May 3rd	May 10th	May 17th	May 24th	May 31st
DIACONATE	Gary Metje	Bill, Rhonda, & Cayleigh Bolton	Kaye Lee	Louis Geldmacher	Michael Bodine
GREETERS	J.D. & Joyce Treadwell	Gary & Clodine Metje	Roxie Lindsay	Bill & Rhonda Bolton	Ramona Brinkopf
LITURGISTS	Dorothy Klien	Bill Bolton	Joyce Treadwell	Rhonda Bolton	Roxie Lindsay
COMMUNION PREP TEAM	Brian Stahlman	-----	-----	-----	
USHERS	CAPTAIN- Michael Bodine Bill Bolton Rhonda Bolton Louis Geldmacher Maxine Hale Kaye Lee Gary Metje Barbara Oberbeck Helen Owens Tammy Popp Calvin & Verla Sailer Rebecca Schild Tom Schild Brian Stahlman Bonnie Wilkening	CAPTAIN- GORDON WALTON Rhonda Bolton Barbara Oberbeck Van Sander	CAPTAIN- PAUL PROPST Bill Bolton Jeff Sneathen Alvin Spencer	CAPTAIN- RANDY COY Michael Bodine Bob Roloff Lori Siebert	USHERS Diaconate & Youth
					
National Day of Prayer					

Prayer List & Friends at Home

Prayer List

In case of hospitalization or surgery please notify our church office. When being admitted to a hospital be sure to tell them that you are affiliated with this congregation. * indicates a new request. *Please note: after six months names will be removed from the prayer list, unless an update is made to the church office.*

Leo Amelunke; 11-08
 Marilyn Amelunke; 11-08
 Jerry Baker; 03-09
 Ruby Bock; 01-09
 Michael Bodine; 03-09
 Loyd Bollinger
 Darlene Dow; 01-09
 Lexi Edwards; 11-08
 Dean & Carolena Galloway; 11-08
 Joan Hope
 *Dr. Bill Johnson [JCMM]; 04-09
 *Ernie & Ida Mae Jordan; 11-08
 Wavis Jordan; 03-09
 *Vergie Kies; 04-09
 *Frank Maevers, Sr.; 03-09
 Dana McClard; 12-08
 David Metcalfe; 02-09
 Ester Nussbaum
 Andora Peetz Family; 01-09
 *Willia Dean Propst; 04-09
 *Vernon Robert; 04-09
 *Irene Sievers; 04-09
 Meta Siemers; 04-09
 Jeff Strickert; 04-09
 Bonnie Wilkening; 01-09

Friends at Home

Ratliff Nursing Home
 717 N. Sprigg Street
 Cape Girardeau, MO 63701
 Polly Wilmsmeyer

Fountainbleau Lodge
 2001 N. Kingshighway
 Cape Girardeau, MO 63701
 Alta Proffer

Lutheran Home
 2825 Bloomfield Road
 Cape Girardeau, MO 63703

Dorothy Cole
 Viola Geiser
 Frank Maevers, Sr.
 Leonard Moore
 Esther Nussbaum

Auburn Creek
 2910 Beaver Creek Drive
 Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

Irene Orlando

Home Bound
 S. G. Coy
 Mary Huckstep
 Kenny Mehrle
 Helen Owens



“With everlasting Love I will have compassion on you ...”
 Isaiah 54 : 8

Evangelical United Church of Christ
33 South Ellis Street
Cape Girardeau, Missouri 63703-6201

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Cape Girardeau, Missouri 63703-6201

Pastor Daniel Johnson
Church Phone: 573-335-5611
Church e-mail: eucc-cape@sbcglobal.net
Church Web Site: evangelicalucc-cape.org

Church Times
Fellowship 9:00 AM
Children's Sunday School 9:30 AM
Adult Bible Study 9:30 AM
Worship Service 10:35 AM

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUEST

More Information

A Poem by Cayleigh Bolton

Cayleigh's poem won 1st Place in the Short Poetry Division and has been published in the 40th Edition of "The Central Light". Congratulations Cayleigh! *[Corrected—The last line was accidentally left off in April's Chronicler.]*

ADDICTION

A roll to play the game
A drink to kill the shame
A snort to feed the flame
A cut to break the vein
A purge to stop the gain
A pill to get away
An addiction's an addiction
It always ends the same

Community Day of Prayer

Prayer . . . America's Hope Hometowns plan celebrations for 58th annual National Day of Prayer Cape Girardeau & Jackson Area Churches are expecting hundreds of people to unite on Thursday, May 7, 2009 at 2 local events for the National Day of Prayer. The Day of Prayer begins at 6:00 AM at Crossroads Fellowship in Jackson for Breakfast & Prayer. The Breakfast Food Court opens at 6 AM and Prayer Service begins at 7 AM.

The evening prayer service will be held at 7:00 PM at St. Andrew Lutheran Church in Cape Girardeau. The Community Day of Prayer will focus on assistance for families in need, but will include prayers for our military, children, government, **and media. This year's national theme is, "Prayer . . . American's Hope"**.

The National Day of Prayer tradition dates back to 1775 and became a yearly event when President Harry S. Truman signed a joint resolution by Congress declaring the celebration. President Ronald Reagan amended the Truman resolution by designating the first Thursday in May as the annual Day of Prayer.

Please plan on attending one or both of the prayer events. For more info go to www.ndptf.org

May 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 Dan home from
3 Communion	4	5	6	7 <i>National Day of Prayer, 6 AM Crossroads Church — 7 PM St. Andrews Lutheran</i>	8	9
10  Mother's Day	11	12 Friendship Circle Mother-Daughter	13	14	15	16
17 UCC Group, 1:30 PM Trinity Lutheran Heri-	18 Council, 7:30 PM	19 Diaconate, 7:00 PM	20	21  ASCENSION OF THE LORD	22	23
24	25 Office Closed  Memorial DAY	26	27	28	29	30 ASAP Trip to Meramac Caverns
31 Strengthen the Church Special Mission Offering						

Extra Information

Ham Supper

During the Diaconate's Ham Supper on Sunday, April 26th, 206 people were served a wonderful meal of ham, mashed potatoes, corn, green beans, slaw, bread & butter, and desserts, many of which were homemade. Our 206 customers had a relaxing, enjoyable dinner, connecting with friends they hadn't seen in a while.

The Diaconate had voted to donate 20 % of the profits from the Ham Supper to the Jamaican Christian Medical Mission. We were blessed with several JCMM team members coming and helping during the Ham Supper. Their help was appreciated.

All the members of the Diaconate would like to say **"THANK YOU"** to everyone who worked and contributed in anyway to the success of the Ham Supper of 2009.

Graduation Sunday will be June 7th.
Here is the list of Graduates.

Jackson High School

Brittney Spencer
Ashley Headrick

Cape Central High School

Graduation, Sunday, May 17th
4:00 PM @ the Show Me Center
Adam Lindsay

Sikeston High School

Jamie Popp

Please call Susan at the church office with any additions or corrections. Thanks.

Strengthen the Church Special Mission Offering

Sunday, May 31st will be the date for the Strengthen the Church Special Mission Offering. Included in this month's Chronicler is a flyer and envelope for your donation. This year's theme is **"Spread the Love"**.

Strengthen the church is the UCC's annual offering to help build our denominational future. Directed to your church's conference, local church ministries and the Still Speaking Ministry, these gifts help invigorate congregations, foster new leaders and grow the UCC's presence as a community of extravagant welcome.

Thank you for supporting Strengthen the Church's Special Mission Offering!

Graduation Sunday

National Day of Prayer [More Information]

Pat Abernathy from Emmanuel UCC and Gary Metje here at Evangelical UCC will be our coordinators. Pat will bring napkins, small plates, and plastic forks. Crossroads Fellowship Church will provide the coffee, juice, and cups. A fruit tray along with mini muffins, coffee cake, cinnamon rolls and the like is the suggested breakfast foods. Please call Pat Abernathy at Home 243-2525 or Cell 450-4352 to coordinate the food items for the breakfast. Thank You.



National Day of Prayer

