

VINE LIFE 2011



December Newsletter of the Vineyard of Licking County

A Disciple loves God, follows Jesus, & Serves People

The Word Became Flesh

Did you know that God knows what's going to happen before it happens? It's called the Omniscience of God – all knowing. He knew He was going to send His Son into the world before He even placed Adam and Eve in the Garden of Gethsemane. The Bible tells us that Jesus was slain before the foundation of the world. (Revelation 13:8) You see, He knew that we would reject Jesus and crucify Him and He still allowed His only Son to leave Heaven to come here.

We celebrate Jesus' coming (or Advent) into our world on December 25th and this year it will land on the Lord's Day (Sunday). Is that the day Jesus was actually born? We don't know -- but probably not. Should we then reject celebrating on this day – well, I'll leave that up to you but to me – MOST CERTAINLY. I believe we should celebrate His coming into our world every day and we should also seize every moment to lift up and glorify the day that deity took on human flesh!

When the angels announced to the shepherds, "I bring you good news of a great joy which shall be to all people... for unto you is born this day, in the city of David, a Savior... it is Christ the Lord" (Luke 2) – the world forever changed! It was no accident for God sent Jesus "in the fullness of time." (Galatians 4:4-5)

The climax of life happened as Jesus, the only Son of God, left heaven bound for earth to restore the broken relationship between Adam's race and the King of the universe. We are about to celebrate another Christmas season and, for Christians, Christmas is celebrating the birth of our Lord, our King, our Emmanuel – God in the flesh! We believe that Jesus is "the Way, the Truth, and the Life" and that no one comes to the Father but by/through Him! That's what makes us Christian. Again, Jesus is Emmanuel - God with us!

There is unrest all around us and life is as uncertain as the daily rise and fall of oil prices and the stock market or even the cost of gas at the pump or groceries or utilities and salaries declining or businesses cutting jobs and on we go. We need Jesus today like no other time in our lives. The Occupy Wall Street protests reveal a growing rebellion around us. The same civil unrest we are experiencing today is not unlike the civil unrest of 2,000 years ago.

Jesus, a Jew, was born under the Roman Empire and civil unrest was accelerating. Our Father chose that time to make His advent into our world. I said all that to say this. Our God is ALL KNOWING. He knows your need before you ask. He has the whole world in His hands. He neither slumbers nor sleeps. His arm is not short in reaching your needs and satisfying your longings. You are NOT alone.

It is not time to give in or give up or even become discouraged. I feel that times will get rough – far rougher than we've seen so far. We can no longer live the dream of spending ourselves into wealth. Our wealth is going to be our Lord. We must rely on His strength, His wisdom, His guidance knowing that His miracles that will surround us. Our resources will be each other as we stand together loving and helping each other as one community.

Job stated after he had lost everything, "naked I came into this world and naked I will leave, the Lord gives and the Lord takes away, may the name of the Lord be praised." (Job 1:21) This

Christmas Eve Candlelight
Communion at 7:00 PM
Christmas Day Worship at 11:00 AM

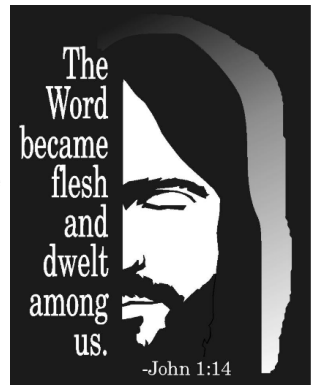
Jesus
Our
Greatest Gift

Christmas – scale back on the materialism. Give/make practical gifts. Say "Merry Christmas" and mean it. The greatest gift you can give is your love and support for each other. The greatest gift God could give us was Himself and that's why we celebrate Christmas. The Word (Jesus) became flesh and dwelt among us. He loves you. Read Luke 2 and place yourself in the position of those shepherds listening to the angels' announcement:

"Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; He is Christ the Lord." (verses 10-11)

Merry Christmas Licking County, you have cause to celebrate.

(this article will appear in the Advocate on the Faith page on December 3, 2011)



**VINEYARD OF
LICKING COUNTY**
7602 Stewart Road, Newark, Ohio 43055
740.364.1750 ~ FAX 364.9084
Web: www.vineyardlc.com
Email: vinelife@vineyardlc.com
Prayer Chain: 522-8176 (Ruth)

Saturday Nite Praise!

We are meeting **INDOORS** as the weather has now changed! We will meet informally in the café until we **OUTGROW** it and then move into the sanctasium! So tell your friends/neighbors (especially those who may work on Sundays to come on out and **KEEP GOD** in your weekend!

**Please pray for this
V LC Outreach Ministry**

Paula Star

Birthdays/Anniversaries

December

- 3 - Michelle Peck, Logan Thurman, Kaden Baker
- 4 - Donnell Wallace, Jeremy Dunn Jr., Ruthanne Redman, Lonnie Wray
- 6 - Natalie Wysocki, Cindy Hagerman
- 7 - Beverly Buxton, Desiree Drumm, Nicole Tosi, Damon Baker
- 8 - Zachery Hone
- 9 - Rebecca Adams, Anna Quick
- 10 - Amanda White, Jeff Walton
- 11 - Bob Shauck, Jennifer Davis
- 20 - Kylie Dunn
- 22 - Len Littlejohn
- 24 - Kathi Ross
- 25 - Emily Dunn
- 27 - Emma Brockman
- 31 - Margaret Curtiss



- 12/6 - Jerry & Susan Delong
- 12/11 - Frank & Nikki Kennedy
- 12/28 - Dean & Joyce Meadows
- 12/31 - Joe & Sue Leffel



If your name has not been listed for your birthday/anniversary, call us: 364-1750.

Prayer Requests

- Tracey Hart and family
- Gennie and Randy Agin
- Ralph and Margaret Curtiss
- Laura Luth
- Ruth & James Ailes
- Bud and Raynola StClair
- Florence Noblick
- Emily Gambrel
- John Wysocki & family
- Depression that hits so many during this time of the year
- The men/women in the military



Goosepond Worship

EVERYONE is welcome to our monthly worship service for the residents of Goosepond Retirement Village on Sunday, December 4th at 2 PM. Bill Hagerman will be the speaker and be in charge of music.

Communion is always offered to the residents.

Newcomers' Class

Next Opportunity

Are you committed to this ministry? We invite you to come on board and serve our Lord with us! Our next Newcomer's Class will be on January 22, 2012 from 4:30 to 8:00 PM.

Join us for a great time getting to know each other and hearing the vision that God has laid on our hearts!

Child care is available.

Sign up now and we'll remind you when it gets here!

Call 364-1750 or visit our Welcome Center.

Gun Safety Class/ Concealed Carry Class

December 9,10, 2011

Friday, 6 to 10 PM

Saturday, 9:00 AM to ????

Maximum 12 participants

Cost \$65

Call 364-1750 right away or register at the Welcome Station.



TWO Pastor's Pick for December

The Red Sea Rules: 10 God-Given Strategies for Difficult Times -by Robert J. Morgan and

Bonhoeffer: Pastor, Martyr, Prophet, Spy -by Eric Metaxas

Feeling trapped? About to drown?

Just as Moses and the Israelites found themselves caught between the devil and the deep

Red Sea, "so are we sometimes overwhelmed by life's problems, But God delivered the Israelites and He will deliver us, too.

The Red Sea Rules reveals, even the midst of seemingly impossible situations, God's promise to make a way for us. His loving guidance will protect us through danger, illness, marital strife, financial problems — whatever challenges Satan places in our path. This little book will be one that you will pick up again and again. These insights into God Word are real, practical and powerful! (available today in our bookstore).

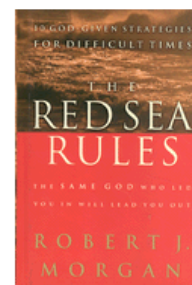
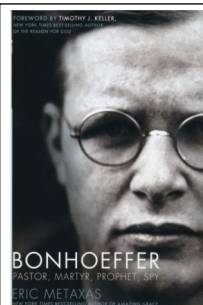
PRAISE FOR "BONHOEFFER: Pastor, Martyr, Prophet, Spy"

Dietrich Bonhoeffer's great gift is that his understanding of faith in times of conflict speaks to generation after generation.

"This is a MASTERPIECE THAT READS LIKE A GREAT NOVEL and weaves together in one opus an understanding of Bonhoeffer's theology, the complex and tragic history of the 20th century Germany, and the human struggle of a true Christian hero. Eric Metaxas is claiming his place as the preeminent biographer of Christianity's most courageous figures." (Martin Doblmeier)

Will we ever be called upon to take a stand for the Gospel of Jesus Christ as Dietrich Bonhoeffer? Maybe, maybe not, but I can assure you, this book could help you should you ever face such a challenge. Both of these books would make excellent Christmas gifts! Also, be sure to grab your gift cards here at the bookstore! Give gifts that bring dividends towards our ministry!

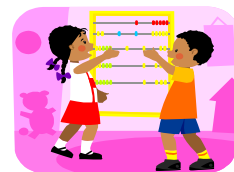
Stop by the VLC Bookstore for your Special Christmas gifts!



VINEYARD OF LICKING COUNTY PRESCHOOL



7602 Stewart Road
Newark OH 43055



Enrolling for the School Year 2011/2012
3-4 Year Old
4-5 Year Old Pre-Kindergarten
Full & Half Day Preschool

Ohio Department of Job & Family Licensed
Curriculum Meets Ohio Early
Learning Standards
Qualified & Caring Staff
Fun & Nurturing Environment

Call (740) 366-4810 For Information Or (740) 364-1750



The Little School with the BIG Heart!

Greetings from the Vineyard Preschool,

We are putting together our third annual Christmas basket which will enable us to meet some needs for our school. In the previous years, our baskets have contained many gift cards and lovely Christmas gifts. Tickets will be on sale before and after our worship services on December 11th. The cost will be \$1.00 per ticket or 6 tickets for \$5.00.

The drawing will be after our Christmas program on Tuesday, December 13th. You do not need to be present to win the drawing: but you are most welcome to attend the program at 7:00 pm. We appreciate your encouragement and support.

God bless you, The Vineyard Preschool Staff

Vineyard

Men's Ministry of Licking County

A cartoon character with spiky brown hair, wearing a purple jacket, blue pants, and red sunglasses. He is holding a red coffee cup with a white handle.

Who: Men - all ages, sizes and colors!

Leader: Howie Broyles

What: NEW Men's Fellowship Group

When: Every Thursday at 6:00 AM

Where: 37 South Park Place

(next to John Edward Price Flower Shop on the square just across the street from Wendy's)

Contact Number: 740.405.0242

Our vision for Men's Ministry is seeing godly character and spiritual maturity formed in men so that they are enabled to become godly servant-leaders in the home, the church, the community and the workplace.

We will meet every Thursday and the topic will be the previous Sunday's sermon! Coffee will be ready and waiting and yes, tell your friends! Remember to bring your BIBLE!

The Vineyard Men's Ministry exists...

- To draw men into real relationship with Christ
- To mature men into spiritual leaders
- To build long term accountable relationships
- To serve the our church and community in the fulfillment of the Great Commission

Attention ALL Men!

Check out a Cluster
this week!

Cluster Page



A "Cluster" is the name for our HOME GROUPS and they are the life-blood of this ministry. It is here we experience the family aspect of ministry. It is a safe place to learn and grow and connect with the body of Christ. All our home groups are open, friendly and waiting just for you to join in the fun and fellowship they all offer!

CLUSTER DETAILS:

Sunday - **"Coming Soon!"** - Leader, Anthony Payton - 522-4323
(Not meeting during December) Meets at 6:00 PM - 1101 Daisy Lane, Heath

Monday **"For Him"** - Leader, Dean Meadows - 366-2327
Meeting at Dean & Joyce Meadows, 532 Myrtle Ave, Newark at 7:00 PM

Wednesday - **"New Wine"** - Leader, Becky Downing 745-3407
Meets at 6:30 PM at Rhonda Loomis', 870 W. Church St Newark
"All Who Are Thirsty" - Leader, Ron Redman (975-8427)
Meets at 6:30 PM at Doug and Grace Ayers', 24 Bluebonnet Dr, Heath
"Living Word" - Leaders, To Be Determined - 344-9309
Meets at 7:00 PM - at various homes
"In His Steps" - Leader, Jane Ridgeway - 323-2866
Meets at 7:00 PM - Dorothy DuBois', 613 King Ave, Newark
"ALPHA" - Leader, Pastor Steve Osborne - 364-1750 Starting soon!
Explore the basics of our faith, ask questions & make new friends!
"New Cluster" Leader, Rick Drumm meeting at the home of Rick and Desiree
Drumm, 668 Evans Street, Newark at 6:30 PM

Thursday - **"Dove"** - Leader, Jim & Ruth Ailes - 522-8176
Meets at 1:00 PM - 152 Woodsedge Circle, Heath (Carol Kurella's) 398-3020
"Ark of God" - Leaders, Frank Kennedy/Donnell Wallace 522-5860 (kids welcome)
Meets at 6:30 PM (2nd & 4th) at John/Brenda Bova's, 404 Welsh View Dr, Newark
"Body Parts Cluster" Leader, TBA
Meets at 6:30 PM - at various homes
Call Church for information

Friday - **"Joyful Noise"** - Leaders, Terry and Donna Dawson - 740-641-6856
Meets at 6:30 PM at various homes

Next ALPHA Cluster to begins soon!
Call the church for more information.

Visit the Cluster Wall, or you may contact the leaders
BUT, by all means, JOIN a CLUSTER!



Vineyard of Licking County
7602 Stewart Road Newark, OH 43055

December 2011 issue of the *VineLife*

Wishing you a wonderful Birth of Christ Season!



Editor/Secretary - Marilyn Thompson
Senior Pastor - Steve Osborne
Children's Ministry - Carole Osborne
Youth Pastor - Wade Kirk
Administrative Asst - Sue Leffel
Financial Secretary - Joyce Meadows
Treasurer - Gennie Agin
Custodian - Carla Davis
Elders: Pastor Steve Osborne, Jim Ailes,
Frank Kennedy, Joe Leffel, Ron Redman
Plus resident ordained elders:
Wade Kirk and Anthony Payton

You're invited to a **Christmas Open House**

Sunday, December 18th ~ 4:00 to 7:00 PM
at the home of

Steve & Carole Osborne

2887 Opossum Hollow Rd,
-come as you are

-light refreshments will be served.

Merry Christmas
from the **Osbornes!**



Christmas Eve
Candlelight Communion
7:00 PM
One Sunday Worship
Celebration!
11:00 AM

Christmas is on
Sunday this year
and will be a family
celebration. Our
children will remain
with us and included
in the worship!



HOMEMADE

Hard Tack Candy

AVAILABLE AT CHURCH THIS WEEKEND!

Before and After all Services

Great to eat - Great as a gift!

Proceeds will be used to support our Church finances!

Merry Christmas And a
Happy New Year!

Pastor Steve
Carole Osborne
Marilyn Thompson
Sue Leffel
Wade Kirk
Carla Davis



from your ministry staff