

### Praise the Lord!

We are eager to get this newsletter to you and other local church leaders with the expectant hope that it comes at a time of great anticipation for what God desires to do in our community. We pray this monthly Connection will serve to inspire and inform you of service opportunities within the Parma and surrounding areas, as well as how your ministry can contribute to the cause of bringing faith, hope, and love to individuals and families around us in need.

## The Time is NOW! by Jeremy Kiner, Co-Director

In the last couple years, state government has taken drastic measures to overcome an alarming deficit and balance the budget. Perhaps the biggest hit region in Ohio was Cuyahoga County, losing 230 million dollars to their budget. Significant cuts to Medicaid has also reduced or eliminated funding to many health care and social service programs, which in turn has impacted thousands of local recipients who benefit from these services. Parma City Schools also endured 18 million dollars in cuts in desperate efforts to survive a state-takeover.

These growing economic challenges can make it feel like we're on a doom-and-gloom trajectory, but I would argue otherwise. Yes, there are bigger holes and less state funding than ever before, but now is not the time for hopeless conversation. Now, more than ever, it is time for the Body of Christ to bind together, rise up, and respond to these challenges like never before. Truly, the Church of TODAY has an incredible opportunity to serve big; to become a modern-day well where thirsty people come to find water and solutions for their life, the greatest of which is Jesus Christ.

### Luke 10: 2

These were his instructions to them: The harvest is great, but the workers are few. So pray to the Lord who is in charge of the harvest; ask him to send more workers into his fields.



The fields are, indeed, ready and the harvest is great. The question is, are there enough workers to meet the increasing challenges? With budgetary strains impacting our schools and county programs, how will the churches of our community respond to the shortfalls? Can we fill in the gap where government has no answer? Can we be more missional and more intentional in our ministries? Can we WOW our community with the love and care and pure Gospel of Christ?

NOW is the time to act! Now is the time for the Body of Christ to not just be hearers of the Word, but doers also. I want to immensely

thank the numerous pastors and churches in the Parma and surrounding areas who I have met over the past couple years who are already responding to the call to serve the community in very BIG ways. You are doing remarkable things. You inspire me and are fueling the fire for even greater things in the Kingdom! Keep praying, keep partnering, and keep pressing on!

Call Us: 216-200-7030 www.ComAmb.org Email Us: contact@comamb.org



A huge thanks to Pastor Yu, his wife, and members of their church and youth group for volunteering and preparing a meal at Pay It Forward Cafe this past month! Pastor Yu leads the Han-Madang United Methodist

Church located at 7800 W. Pleasant Valley Rd. Following the meal, youth members thoroughly blessed the Cafe patrons with songs of praise and worship. We look forward to having them come back again!

Would your church like to get involved with Pay It Forward Cafe? We could use your help! To inquire about service opportunities, please

contact Dona Kiner at 216-200-7030. Pay It Forward Cafe runs every Saturday at Parmatown Mall from 12:00 PM to 2:00PM.



### Where to begin?

Call Us: 216-200-7030

We've encountered pastors that say, "I want to get involved with the community, but I don't know where to begin." Below are 3 practical suggestions for getting started.

- Walk your neighborhood, the mall, or the park. Ask God to show you the needs in your community. How might God use you or your ministry to meet those needs?
- If one thing just one thing could be done in your neighborhood to let people know that you care for them, what would it be? Do that one thing.
- Partner with another ministry or organization in the community to build experience and increase impact. Where two or three are gathered in Christ's name, He is in the midst! Contact a ministry or organization to volunteer today!

## UPCOMING EVENTS Get Connected

June 28 - **Parma Area Family Collaborative Meeting – @** EFSN Family Service Center, 4261 Fulton Parkway, Old Brooklyn 44144 from 8:15-9:30

We would like to spotlight your ministry or outreach!

Please tell us about how you are serving your community!

www.ComAmb.org Email Us: contact@comamb.org



Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

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## June

This summer, Community Ambassadors is committing to praying each day for the churches, city government, businesses, and schools of our community.
Would you consider praying with us?

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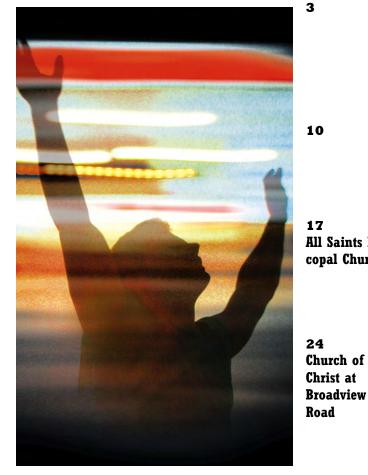
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Lutheran

Church



10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 21 22 18 19 20 23 All Saints Epis- Bethany As-Bethany Lu-Bethel Temple Bethlehem Calvary Lu-**Brook Park** copal Church sembly of God theran Church Assembly of Lutheran Community theran Church & School & School Church God & School Church 24 25 26 28 29 30 27 Church of Concord Free Divinity Lu-Good Shepherd Han-Madang Hillview Bap-First United

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Church



Sun Fri Sat Mon Tue Wed Thu

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Ukrainian

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Catholic Ca-

# **July** 2012



1 Holy Family Parish & School	2 Holy Spirit Byzantine Catholic Church	3 Holy Trinity Lutheran Church	4 Holy Trinity Orthodox Church	5 Immanuel Assembly of God	6 Lakeview Church of God	7 New Apostolic Church
8 New Life Fel- lowship Four- square Church	9 Parma Baptist Church & School	10 Parma Chris- tian Church	11 Parma Heights Baptist Church & School	12 Parma Park Church of God	13 Parma-South Presbyterian Church	14 Pearlbrook Baptist Church
15 Pleasant Hills United Method- ist Church	16 Pokrova Ukrainian Catholic Church	17 Ridge Rd. United Church of Christ	18 Ridgewood United Meth- odist Church	19 Saint Sava Serbian Ortho- dox Cathedral	20 Southwest Community Baptist Church	21 St. Andrews Ukrainian Catholic Church

25

School

St. Columb-

Borromeo Par- kille Church & Sales Catholic Church

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Church

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St. Francis de St. John Bosco St. Josaphat

29 30 31 St. Mary's Pol- St. Matthew St. Matthias ish Church Lutheran Church Church

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St. Charles

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Sun Mon

Tue

Wed

St. Paul Lu-

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Community &

Businesses

St. Paul

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United Church

Fri

3

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Community &

Businesses

Parma Heights Seven Hills

St. Peter

of Christ

**United Church** 

Sat

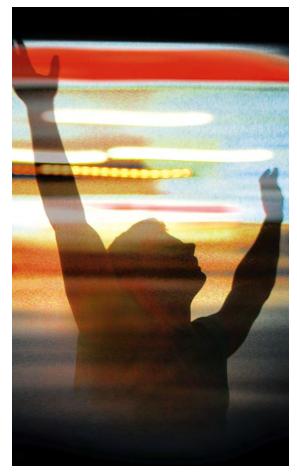
St. Sergius

Russian Or-

dral

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## August 2012



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Ridge-Brook

**Elementary** 

27

Thoreau Park

**Elementary** 

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Parma City

5 St. Therese of the Child Jesus Church	6 St. Vladimir's Ukrainian Or- thodox Cathe- dral	7 The Branch Community Church	8 Trinity Baptist Church	9 Vineyard Christian Fel- lowship	10 Parma City Hall	11 Parma Heights City Hall
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Seven Hills	Normandy	Parma Senior	Valley Forge	Greenbriar	Hillside Mid-	Shiloh Middle
City Hall	High School	High School	High School	Middle School	dle School	School
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Dentzler Ele-	Green Valley	John Muir	Parkview First	Parma Park	Pleasant Val-	Renwood Ele-
mentary	Elementary	Elementary	Step	Elementary	ley Elementary	mentary

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School District munity &

Admin Offices Businesses

Parma Com-