

# Epworth Center news

Issue 6:3

*"Sharing Our Witness Enriching Relationships"*

Special Edition 2008

## SOWER 2008



230 SOWERS came to make building repairs this summer from United Methodist, Lutheran and Presbyterian Churches. Groups traveled from Ohio, Michigan, Illinois, Indiana, and Pennsylvania. SOWER volunteers worked in 15 area communities on approximately 20 separate projects. These included painting, handicap accessible ramps, roofing, porch repair, and more!



**HE can do it,  
we can help.**

Two groups also came to conduct Vacation Bible School for the Bethesda United Methodist Church and Real Life Community of Faith, a local United Methodist new church start. The kids enjoyed "Power Lab" and had a great time with hands-on learning about scripture! Not only did they conduct VBS, but they also worked on building repair projects as well.

**Tips for planning a work mission trip are available online!**

***"This is one of the best birthday presents I've ever gotten... I'm overwhelmed."***

- Leonard, who turned 82-years-old the week his handicap accessible ramp was built, making it possible for him to leave his home for dialysis.

***"You made me feel like I belong. Things sometimes get tough but you are there."***

- SOWER youth participant, reflecting on her week at the Epworth Center

***"The experience changed lives... We even discovered that he had dimples."***

- SOWER group leader, in talking about one youth who was a little reserved when he came, but went home with new friends and a smile!

## Register now for SOWER 2009

Come and join us for SOWER 2009! Your group can make a difference in this area. There are many people who could use a building repair and an encouraging smile! We've already begun receiving phone calls about needed projects for next summer. We will start posting information and pictures about them after the first of the year, so our groups can choose their own projects. There is also a need for groups to come and either fully conduct or help a church conduct Vacation Bible School. To learn more about SOWER or to register, contact us today!

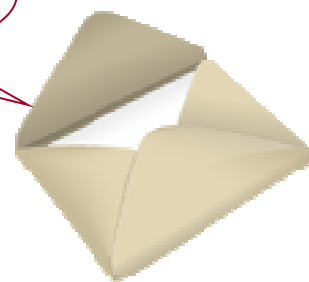
**"Therefore, my dear brothers, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor is not in vain." -1 Corinthians 15:58**



Our annual SOWER Celebration Dinner will be held on **Saturday, October 18** at 6:00 p.m. Join us for a delicious meal, great entertainment and reflections from this summer's SOWER Work Mission. More details coming soon — visit our website or contact us.

**YOU ARE INVITED!**

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW!**



## Health Fair & Footprints in the Park Walk

On July 12, the Epworth Center held a health fair and first annual Footprints in the Park Walk during Chautauqua Days. Many showed up for information and free screenings. Over 30 people participated in the walk, tallying 51,036 steps—about 25 miles! Congrats!

## Epworth Center Prayer Requests ...

SOWER participants and clients, hunger ministry, prison ministry, medical ministry, volunteers, staff

### Mission Statement:

Making disciples for Jesus Christ by working with local churches to make building repairs for individuals, families, churches, and nonprofit organizations who cannot afford them.



The Epworth Center is listed as both an East Ohio Conference Advance Special and a General Advance of the UMC.

Advance Special 9140- SOWER; 9191- Outreach  
General Advance 180758 - Cabin project  
General Advance 180759 - Extension ministries

## Contact Us

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## SOWER Work Mission

A ministry of the East Ohio Conference of  
The United Methodist Church,  
working within  
the Southern Hills and  
Ohio Valley Districts.

SOWER has an  
ecumenical focus,  
welcoming groups from  
many denominations.