

# Epworth Center news

Issue 5:2

*"Sharing Our Witness Enriching Relationships"*

Summer 2007

## Greetings Friends...

It is a beautiful day and there is a lot of activity at the Epworth Center. Two groups from the Belmont Correctional Institution are busy with projects. One group is remodeling cabin #2 and the other is landscaping around the Epworth lodge, planting bushes, small trees and flowers.

We are also getting ready for this summer's SOWER Work Mission and we have a number of building projects to complete for clients. Our staff is looking forward to seeing friends from previous SOWER groups, as well as making new acquaintances. We will share stories, have devotions, play games, make repairs and eat plenty of good food in air conditioning. Let me tell you about one of our clients, Sue, who needed a handicap accessible ramp for her trailer so that her son could come inside and visit with her. We were pleased when one of our SOWER groups chose this project. You can view this and other projects on our website. Our clients and projects are pictured with material lists. Our groups choose projects from the information and pictures posted online.

The Epworth Center appreciates your prayers and contributions. Have a blessed summer! -Rev. Lester Wilson

Visit us online at [www.epworthcenter.org](http://www.epworthcenter.org)

Receiving this newsletter in black-and-white print form? Sign up for our "e-mail"ing list and see it in color!



The Epworth Center's cabin renovation project is underway! We wish to thank Jim Webber and Junior Merckle, as well as the inmates from the Belmont Correctional Institution, for their hard work and assistance with this project, which started with cabin #2. This renovated cabin will have more sleeping capacity and air conditioning. With the help of volunteers and local inmates we hope to have cabin #2 finished by October. We are posting pictures on our website as this project progresses. Your prayers are appreciated.

## Exciting opportunity for Epworth Center

The Professional Association of United Methodist Church Secretaries (PAUMCS) will feature the Epworth Center and the SOWER Work Mission as its 2008 mission project for its national conference that will be held in Dayton. All attendees will be asked to bring an item to help SOWER Work Mission teams, such as paint brushes, safety goggles, painting tape, dust masks, etc. The Epworth Center will also have a chance to speak about its SOWER Work Mission and other ministries.

**"Feed the hungry, and help those in trouble. Then your light will shine out from the darkness, and the darkness around you will be as bright as noon." -Isaiah 58:10 (NLT)**

## Outreach updates

- ◆ The Epworth Center provided **Easter baskets** to 11 local families in need, and gave a gift card to a family who recently suffered a fire. The baskets included ham, potatoes, vegetables, fruit, Easter candy, and small Easter activity books and goodies for children. We wish to thank all those who have been donating to this project, and also to the Girl's Home who came and helped pack baskets.
- ◆ In April, the Epworth Center hosted **two Easter brunches**... One for the inmates from the Belmont Correctional Institution, and the other for a local girl's home. We are excited about these events! We had Easter goodies and a hearty meal for both events. We wish to thank those who helped with and donated to these events. Kathy Crock from Caldwell UMC gave the girls each a bag full of Mary Kay products and showed them how to apply the makeup. The Easter brunches were a lot of fun and we look forward to having them again next year.
- ◆ The Epworth Center will be hosting a **health fair and flu shots** in the fall. More information will be posted in the next newsletter and on our website.
- ◆ Thank you to Wilson's Furniture in Bridgeport who has continued to **donate items** such as sofas, love seats, chairs and bedroom pieces to the Epworth Center. These donations have helped enable us to reach out to the area in a tangible way.
- ◆ For more information about outreach ministries at the Epworth Center, and for pictures of the above events, visit our website.



We are encouraged by the number of participants for the SOWER Work Mission this summer. Approximately 230 volunteers will come to the Epworth Center to make building repairs for those who cannot afford them. A lot of good will be accomplished through SOWER. As one client said, "You don't know how much this means to us that you are coming to work on our home." Please keep the clients, staff, volunteers, and SOWERS in your prayers. Visit our website for updates and pictures from projects throughout the summer.

YOU CAN MAKE  
A DIFFERENCE

**SOWER 2007 t-shirts are available.**

Contact us or visit our website for details! Proceeds go to our hunger outreach ministry.

**Mission opportunities are knocking...**

Are you looking for ways to get involved in mission? Contact us or visit our website for ideas about how you or your church can support the Epworth Center.

### Mission Statement:

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

## Epworth Center Prayer Requests ...

1. Hunger ministry
2. Parish nurse program
3. SOWERS
4. SOWER Clients
5. Prison ministry
6. Volunteers
7. Staff



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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.