

**October 2011  
Edition**

# Clifton Avenue Church of

## Pastoral Ponderings

Psalm 42 opens “*It is good to give thanks to the Lord, and to sing praises to Your name, O Most High; To declare Your loving-kindness in the morning, and Your faithfulness every night.*”

As we prepare to usher in the fall season, I can only say God is good. This month I will celebrate my 60<sup>th</sup> birthday and I must be having fun because time is flying. I am so excited about what God is doing in

our midst. We welcome a new partner in ministry as the Springfield Christian Youth Ministry is launching *Girl Power* giving us the opportunity to minister to 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade girls from Hayward. We have a plan in place to winterize the home of Mickey May before the days go cold and I believe this will cut his utility bills in half. Praise God for Pro-

ject Emmanuel. Our remodel of the library is almost complete and we will soon dedicate *Grace Place*.

Kudos to the Vickers and the host of volunteers who worked hard to turn vision into reality.

God is faithful and we can trust Him to continue to shepherd us as we seek to impact our community with the love of Christ and the Message of hope.

Our theme this month is **Attributes**.

Love,

Pastor David Cotto

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## Counseling Corner

*God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change the courage to change the things I can and the wisdom to know the difference.*

(Read 2 Samuel 15:1-26)

Sometimes in recovery we're on top of the world. We feel as though our problems are licked for good. At such times, it is tempting to relax and stop living one day at a time. But then life surprises us with an unexpected problem.

King David had reached a pinnacle of success. He had killed giants, won battles, captured the hearts of his people, and overcome enemies on every side. While he was in this comfortable position, he was surprised by a rebellion led by his own son: “A messenger soon arrived in Jerusalem to tell King David, ‘All Israel has joined Absalom in a conspiracy against you!’ Then we must flee at once or it will be too late!’ David urged his men-Hurry! If we get out of the city before he arrives, both we and the city of Jerusalem will be spared from disaster.... If the Lord sees fit, David said, ‘he will bring me back to see the Ark and the Tabernacle again. But if he is through with me, then let him do what seems best to him’” (2 Samuel 15:13-14, 25-26).

King David wisely accepted the reality at hand and responded to the situation as it was, not as he wished it to be. It seems that David was a little out of habit of relying on God day by day, but he quickly placed his life back in God's hands. God did protect him and returned him to the throne in Jerusalem. When life hits us with unexpected threats, we, too, should be reminded that our life needs to be in God's hands. (Read Proverbs 3:5-6)

Pastor Tina

# Kids Hope USA

## Do you have a day to give?

*24 hours to change the life of a child?*

So not to offer "false advertising" let me explain!

Looking at a school calendar, KIDS HOPE USA mentors from early October to late May.

Counting weeks, this gives us roughly 30 weeks of mentoring or 30 hours.

NOW we eliminate the hours there is no mentoring:

- 2 weeks for Christmas vacation
- 1 week for spring break
- Snow days
- Thanksgiving break
- Martin Luther King Day
- Memorial Day
- Class parties/trips
- Occasional times your child is absent



Suddenly, the year commitment doesn't look like too much! The time you give, although countless and precious to a child isn't as overwhelming as it appears.

**One hour, one child, approximately one day in your life, to change a life.**

See Laura Hufford to learn more. [lhbuilder@aol.com](mailto:lhbuilder@aol.com) (937) 536-6168

## **We Love Our Pastors**

**Sunday, October 9, 12:30pm**



October is Pastor Appreciation so it is a perfect time to show some extra love to the Cottos. We want to honor Pastor David and Pastor Tina, and their daughters TJ, and Hannah. Please bring 2 large dishes to share. Drinks, tableware, and desserts will be provided. Let's bless our pastors!

## ***Family in Need***

There is a family in need of a gas stove and a refrigerator. If you can help, please see Debbie Hilliard.



**Help  
Habitat for Humanity  
win \$50,000  
to Refresh Springfield!**

Habitat is competing for a Pepsi ReFresh grant from 9/1/11 to 9/30/11! We are trying to win \$50,000 to improve the community garden that we started two years ago at the corner of Linden Ave and Rice St in Springfield.

We are trying to add greenhouses, a small orchard, and a community learning center which would allow us to provide nutrition and urban agriculture educational opportunities to local residents, as well as help to make the garden sustainable for the future. We need your help! Log on and vote for us once a day every day in the month of September at

[www.refresheverything.com/cchfhgarden](http://www.refresheverything.com/cchfhgarden)

and/or text the number 108857 to 73774 every day.

Thank you for your support!

**GirlPower**



Thurs-

days, Sept. 22—Dec. 1,  
3:45pm—6pm

Focused on helping middle school girls develop a lifestyle of healthy habits, GirlPower's volunteer college students come alongside girls for instruction in exercise and fitness, hands-on learning in cooking and nutrition, and weekly discussions and exercises in everything from conflict resolution

**Clifton Ave. Programs**

**Celebrate Recovery**

WEDNESDAYS 6:30-8PM.  
God Loves You and so do I.

*Pastor Tina*

**Sunday School:** 9:30am

**Sunday AM Worship:**  
10:30am

Children's Church during preaching (approx. 11:30)

**Sunday Evening Prayer:**  
5-6pm

**Pulpit Exchange**

**Sunday, October 9, 10:30am**

Pastor David will be preaching at the Westminster Presbyterian Church and their pastor, Dwight McCormick will be preaching here. Come and share some of the Clifton Ave. spirit with Pastor McCormick.

**Pantry Outreach**

Every 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday

9:30am Breakfast

10:00-11:30 Pantry

If you want to volunteer, contact Sis Debbie Hilliard.

**Help Us Help Others**

Please bring in non-perishable food items such as ...



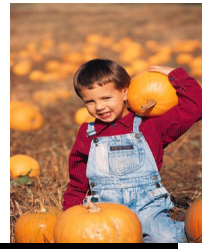
- Peanut Butter    Canned Meat
- Mac & Cheese    Soup
- Ramen Noodles
- Cereal    and    Other Items

Please leave the food in the marked barrel in the foyer or give to Steve or Debbie Hilliard so we can continue to have food for those in need.

Thanks so much for your generosity!

<b>Weeks</b>	<b>Tithes/Offerings</b>	<b>Needed</b>	<b>Attendance</b>
08/28/11	\$773.00	\$2,660.00	56
09/04/11	\$3757.26	\$2,660.00	40
09/11/11	\$556.06	\$2,660.00	44
09/18/11	\$1130.85	\$2,660.00	56
<b>Monthly Total (Sept)</b>	<b>Average \$1554.29</b>	<b>Avg. \$2,660.00</b>	<b>Average 49</b>
<b>Prev. Month (August)</b>	<b>\$6496.55</b>	\$2,660.00	49 avg.
<b>Prev. Month (July)</b>	\$10403.65	\$12,000.00	55 avg.

# October



Sunday	Monday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1
2	3	5 <i>Birthday</i> <i>Paige Herron</i> C.R.6:30-8pm	6	7	8 <b>Pantry:</b> 930-Breakfast 10-11:30-Pantry
9 <b>Pastor's</b> <b>Appreciation Day</b> <b>Carry-in Dinner</b> 12:30pm <i>Birthday-</i> <i>Janice</i> <i>Cumming</i>	10 <i>Birthday-</i> <i>Pastor David Catta</i>	12 C.R.6:30-8pm	13	14	15 <b>Pantry:</b> 930-Breakfast 10-11:30-Pantry
16	17	19 C.R. 6:30-8pm ...	20	21	22
23	24	25 <i>Birthday-</i> <i>Jeff Hodge</i>  C.R. 6:30-8pm	26	27	28
29	30	31 <i>Birthday-</i> <i>Pastor Tina Catta</i>	<div style="border: 3px double black; padding: 10px; text-align: center;"> <p><b>We are on the web</b> <a href="http://www.cliftonavechog.org">www.cliftonavechog.org</a></p> </div>		

**Please call office for changes or updates on birthdays, anniversaries, or events**