



The Shining Light

June 2010

Volume 14, Number 2

BEACON

beacon@charterinternet.com

Website: www.beaconministry.org

BEACON says Goodbye to Clearinghouse Director, Maggie Daugherty

In her usual unassuming way, Maggie accepted a full time position with the U.S. Government in St. Louis early this month and submitted her resignation to BEACON. She did not want her leaving to be a big deal. The staff and board members, along with several former board members said farewell at an open house on May 12th at Westminster Presbyterian Church.

Maggie has seen BEACON grow from a handful of churches and a small number of services to the ministry it is today. She has worked many hours for little pay and invested much heart and soul in BEACON. We will miss her love and dedication. Maggie plans

to volunteer on weekends and at special events. Laurie Brown is assuming her duties at BEACON. Good Luck, Maggie!



Maggie with former Board President
Wanda Knepper

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BEACON

Board Members

John Laker, President, Holy Trinity Catholic Church

Diane Runyan, Vice-President, Faith Lutheran Church

Mickie Moore, Secretary, Westminster Presbyterian Church

Gwen Borsch, Treasurer, St Paul United Church of Christ/Blessed Savior Lutheran

Rev. Rick Hodshire, Cornerstone Christian Church

June Wolz, Signal Hill Lutheran Church

Rev. Dr. John Dawson, Sterling Baptist Church

Pearl Washington, Radiance Center for Spiritual Living

Rev. Dorothy Berry, Wilkerson Chapel AME Church

Jim Eckert, Union United Methodist Church

Yvonne Hayes, St Augustine of Canterbury Catholic Church

Businesses Care



Allsup, Inc., in Belleville, hosted an employee fundraiser for BEACON. Employees were asked to donate toiletries. These items were taken to our office and sorted, then transported to three area pantries, plus the Pregnancy Care Center in Belleville. We estimate that over \$700 worth of items were collected. Allsup Employees also had the opportunity to pay to dress down on a certain day. These generous friends raised \$775 for BEACON! We love you Allsup! Pictured above (left) are (left to right) Sheila Theobald, Co-chair, Jade Sodam, BEACON Program Director, and Andrea Stoppelmann, Chairman, Allsup Spring Donation Drive; (right) (front row—left to right) Andrea Stoppelman, Chairman, Jade Sodam BEACON Program Director; (back ((back row—left to right) Kim Rist, Director, Human Resources, Sheila Theobald, Ch-chairman, and Janine Cox, HR Specialist

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Just In from Jade

See What God Has Done! *The heavens tell the glory of God.*

(Psalm 19:1) How vital it is that we pray, armed with the knowledge that God is in heaven. Pray with any lesser conviction and your prayers are timid, shallow, and hollow. But spend some time walking in the workshop of the heavens, seeing what God has done, and watch how your prayers are energized. By showing us the heavens, Jesus is showing us his Father's workshop. He taps us on the shoulder and says

“Your Father can handle that for you.” Here at BEACON, we rely heavily on prayer and the knowledge that our Father can handle whatever comes our way. This “handle” comes in the form of our vast pool of volunteers, giving freely of their time, and commitment, and believing in BEACON. Without our volunteers, BEACON would cease to exist. Volunteers help with our furniture ministry, as well as answering telephones, working IT issues, updating our web page, cooking food

for relational, preparing mailings, and many other tasks. One of my important responsibilities as Program Director is to be a good steward of BEACON's resources. Of these, our volunteers are our greatest resource. With their wonderful giving of their time & efforts and God's “handling” of BEACON's ministries, we can march on to continue helping those, who need our help the most, within the communities where we live. A salute to our volunteers! Thank you so much!

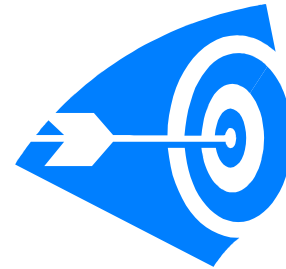
Meet New Board member, Rev. Dr. John Dawson

The Rev. Dr. John Dawson was called to serve Sterling Baptist Church in December of 2009. He may be new to the area, but he has jumped right in.

John's vocation to ministry is a second career. He began at age 42 and finished his PHD at 56. He and wife Ellen (married 44 years last November), served churches in Ontario, Canada, where John is from, as well as Michigan, Pennsylvania and Indiana before coming to Sterling.

Rev. Dawson has always been involved in community outreach, which he considers an important part of church ministry. He heard of BEACON when he attended an Agency Networking meeting and wanted to become involved.

John is active with Fairview Heights Kiwanis and is a trainer for the Illinois Dept of Conservation's Hunter Education Program. He enjoys camping and traditional archery, as well as singing and playing guitar.



He brings a wealth of experience and a joyful heart to BEACON. Welcome John!

If you would like to receive the Shining Light electronically (via Email), please send an email to beacon@charterinternet.com with subscribe in the subject line. If you prefer the US Mail, we will continue to mail it to you!

Statistics for the months of January, February, March

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Total
REQUESTS	180	173	210	563

THESE TOTALS INCLUDE: Transportation –26 completed
Furniture –20 completed

Churches Partnering with BEACON

The BEACON Board has recently come up with a process for assessing the level of participation of the churches who participate in BEACON’s ministries. We have three different categories these churches can fall under. If a church supports BEACON financially, but does not have any volunteers working with us, they are a *Supporting Church*; if a church has volunteers who work with us, but they don’t support us financially, they are a *Participating Church*; finally, if a church supplies both volunteers and financial support, they are a Partner Church. BEACON is grateful for all the churches who work with us and we are aware that they have different resources to share. We see it as a way to encourage churches to full partnership with us, while at the same time, acknowledge all the churches who offer support.



BEACON's Bowling Fundraiser is Big

Sixty two bowlers came out to Bowl for BEACON on Sunday, March 14th. The bowlers represented Christian Family Church, Westminster Presbyterian, Faith Lutheran, Crossroads Christian Church, Peace Lutheran Church and Cornerstone Christian Church.

Christian Family keeps the traveling trophy for bringing the most bowlers with 25. The 50/50 drawing was won by Judy Ross (Christian Family), and attendance prizes went to Candace McNeal, Cindie Queener, Lillian Sodam, Neil Kolling, and Ed Bartlett.

Winners of the trophies were Tom Swartz (men's—Westminster), Staci Timmons (women's—Crossroads), David Swartz (youth—Westminster), and Crossroads Christian Church for the church high average.

The fundraiser netted \$393.84 and much goodwill.

Lines from Laurie

Have you ever thought what it might be like to be homeless? We have all heard about or seen folks who are or appear to be homeless, pushing shopping carts, talking to themselves, sleeping on or in a cardboard box. I've seen plenty in down town Chicago, where I grew up, in East St. Louis, where I worked for 25 years, and more recently, in Belleville, where I live. But what is really behind their dilemma? It could be mental illness, or a history of substance abuse. It could also be someone with a

minimum wage job, who is paying rent and utilities and food, then gets a medical condition that requires medication, or a hospital stay, or an extended time off from work. Now the money isn't enough and they get behind on the utilities or rent. Next, the job goes because they have missed too much work. Soon, an eviction notice comes and the power is shut off, so there is no refrigerator to keep food and no way to stay cool or warm. Looking for another job gets harder and harder because there is

no longer money for bus fare and little food and medical issues and an overall feeling of hopelessness. My hope, indeed my prayer, is that none of us ever experiences this chain of events. But, it does happen every day. Many are able to get help and rise above. But some find it harder and let the hopelessness turn to bitterness. Please keep these folks in your prayers. There are few services that help and these are badly under funded, but, there is hope in the steadfast love of Christ. And the power of prayer is limitless!

A donation envelope is included in this newsletter. If you feel that BEACON is serving God's less fortunate in ways you believe are good, we would appreciate your financial support, or check the wish list on the back of this newsletter. BEACON operates entirely on donations and fundraising. We wish you God's blessings. Thank you.

Maggie's Meanderings

Maggie is meandering to a new job. But, as I leave, I would like to thank God for all the glorious opportunities He has provided me to serve. I would like to thank all of the fabulous volunteers I have served with and developed friendships with over the years. I also thank the agencies, organizations and churches whose members have helped me learn and reach out to and share God's love with the communities we serve.

I have been promoted to volunteer, so, I hope to see you

soon. I will be working the Applebee's breakfast on June 26th in Shiloh—see the ad here in this newsletter. Join me to either volunteer, or to enjoy breakfast and support BEACON.

What I hope to continue to do is be an example to our youth and a mentor to young adults by teaching them the importance of reaching out to others who might be in need. Share a smile, share a meal, share your furniture, share a coat, but, most of all, share yourself and the love that God

has given us all. You could also share some prayers and financial support for the youth as Cornerstone Christian Church goes to Mexico in July to build a house. I'm sure there are many youth groups going on mission trips, so please support them however you are able.

God has a plan and opportunities for us all if we take a moment and listen. Thanks for all your support over the past nine years at BEACON!

Financial Matters

	Budgeted	Received	Budgeted	Rcvd
	Jan-Mar	Jan-Mar	YTD	YTD
Individuals	\$4550	\$11556	\$4550	\$11556
Churches	\$6750	\$10617	\$6750	\$10617
Businesses	\$1500	\$775	\$1500	\$775
Organizations	\$875	\$583	\$875	\$583
Fundraising	\$3204	\$3047	\$3204	\$3047
Grants	\$1500	\$1230	\$4000	\$1230
Totals	\$18379	\$27828	\$18379	\$27828



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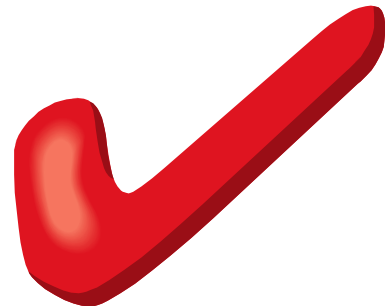
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Business Sponsorships are available in three levels: Gold, Silver and Bronze. Contact Jade at the BEACON office to request a packet of information.

Did you know you can donate to BEACON electronically? Check out our website: www.beaconministry.org and click on paypal



Recent Supporters

(March, April, May)

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Crossroads Christian Church

William Crotty

Mark & Marni Cunningham

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Faith Family Church

Barbara Ford

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Paul Oberneuferrmann

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Ethel Oldendorph

Patrick Osowski

Peace Lutheran Church

Radiance Center for Spiritual Living

Richard & Carolyn Rawlings

Marie Reichling

Larry Reid

Helen Richter

St Augustine of Canterbury

St Stephen Catholic Church

Tina Sambo

Mary Lou Seibert

Melissa Smith

Cliff & Terrel Smyly

Jade & Mike Sodam

Bonnie Speraw

Lauretta & John Stellyes

Bob & Patty Stone

Swansea Church

Coral Szewczyk

Roger & Janet Thomas

Richard & Phyllis Timko

Larry Twigg

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Caseyville VFW

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Bernice Warning

Well of Living Water

Shirley Wehmeyer

Sue Whetstone

Bob Wilson

Leonard & Delores Wojtysiak



The Shining Light

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Recent Supporters Cont.

June Wolz

Swansea Women of the Moose

Donations in

Memory Of:

Rose Griffin by June Wolz

Charlotte Smith by Jerry & Tanya Mitchell

You can honor someone you love or remember someone who has passed away. Note the remembrance on your donation envelope and we will print it in our newsletter, as well as send an acknowledgement out to the family.

Breakfast at Applebee's to Benefit BEACON

Saturday, June 26, 2010

Green Mount Crossing in Shiloh

Serving 8:00 am to 9:45 am

Tickets—\$10 (\$5 for kids 3-10, 2 and under —free)

**Pancakes, Sausage, Scrambled Eggs,
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Attendance prizes !

Call BEACON at 222-8942 or tickets or information



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Central Christian Church
Christian Family Church
Christ United Church of Christ
Cornerstone Christian Church
Crossroads Christian Church
Faith Family Church
Faith Lutheran Church
First Baptist Church of Caseyville
First United Presbyterian Church
Grace Church
Hope Church
Life Church
Peace Lutheran Church
Radiance Center for Spiritual Living
St Augustine of Canterbury Catholic

St Mary Catholic Church
St Nicholas Catholic Church
St Paul United Church of Christ
St Peter Cathedral Catholic Church
St Stephen Catholic Church
Signal Hill Lutheran Church
Signal Hill United Methodist Church
Sterling Baptist Church
Union United Methodist Church
Westminster Presbyterian Church
Wilkerson Chapel AME Church

Participating Churches

Holy Trinity Catholic Church
Parkview Church of the Nazarene
Redeemer Community Church (PCA)
St Clare Catholic Church
St Luke Catholic Church

St Teresa Catholic Church

Supporting Churches

Calvary Evangelical Lutheran Church
Christ United Methodist Church
First Baptist Church of Belleville
First Church of Christ Scientist
Garden Heights Baptist Church
O'Fallon Assembly of God
Our Lady Queen of Peace Church
Prospect Park United Methodist Church
St John United Church of Christ
Swansea Church
Trinity United Church of Christ
Well of Living Water Ministries