

# THE LCF CONNECTION

October 2017

## LCF CAMPOUT

Our August LCF Campout was a time to reconnect, refresh, and remember that we are blessed to have such good friends, inside and outside of church.



Photo Credits - **Sammy Waweru**



It was fun to hang out with people I only see once a week, and to be in God's natural universe. And the food was also very good! - **Lance Miller**



The kids and adults alike enjoyed Saturday afternoon on the Slip and Slide and playing other yard games. It was a fun weekend with beautiful weather to spend with our church family in God's creation.

- **Katy Miller**



It's been a while since we've been able to make it to the camp out, but I realized how much we had been missing out. Between getting the chance to learn more about each other's lives, sharing great food, and knocking down some bowling pins on a Slip and Slide, to name a few, it was a great time. - **Dan Frederick**

We enjoyed our time at the campground. It was the first time my daughter, Lizzie, actually wanted to play in the water this whole summer. She liked throwing "rockies" in the water. It was also a blessing to sit and chat with the other young mommies. It was nice to share stories of our little ones and hold the new babies. I would say this was one of the most relaxing and enjoyable camp outs yet. - **Amie Smith**



My favorite thing about the camp out was the Ultimate Frisbee. It was crazy to see how athletic people are that I wouldn't have ever expected! Coming in at a close second was me. Rich got smoked by Amie Smith in spike ball (Amie has a pretty mean serve!). I loved getting to connect with a bunch of people outside of church. Also, I learned Lance is pretty dope at corn-hole, and I'd team up with him any day!

- **Rob Devlin**



We had fun sitting around the campfire at night, and we enjoyed when Justin Scheffel played the guitar and everyone sang. Our son, Vinny, looks forward to the camp out so he can spend as much time as possible in the creek. He is always prepared with nets and buckets and can't wait to hunt for crawfish. - **Mandy Hochstetler**



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London Christian Fellowship seeks to develop authentic and passionate followers of Jesus Christ.

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# WE NEED A + HERO

A Pastoral Message By Jerry Sauder



What accounts for the enduring allure of superhero movies? In a broad sense, they speak to the desire we have for a savior. We recognize the brokenness of the world we live in. Something is drastically wrong, and we need someone more powerful than us to come in and fix it.

C.S. Lewis eloquently points out that our desires are not wrong; rather, they point to a greater reality. Quoting from Mere Christianity: "The Christian says, 'Creatures are not born with desires unless satisfaction for those desires exists. A baby feels hunger: well, there is such a thing as food. A duckling wants to swim: well, there is such a thing as water. Men feel sexual desire: well, there is such a thing as sex. If I find in myself a desire which no experience in this world can satisfy, the most probable explanation is that I was made for another world.'"

The recent Wonder Woman movie is a stellar example of the superhero genre, a well-made film which taps into many of the deep longings we have. In the midst of the Great War (WWI) when there are grave threats to the survival of large segments of the population, a hero appears who is intent on destroying Aries, the Greek god of war, who is seen as the source of all human conflict. Although a measure of victory is achieved, she is not successful in her quest for complete annihilation of evil from the human race.

Human attempts at creating a savior will always fall short of God's perfect

approach. With that in mind, let's look at some of the ways the creators of Wonder Woman fashioned their hero to compare with our Messiah. First, they gave her an uncorrupted nature. Wonder Woman was said to have been formed in clay by her mother with Zeus breathing life into her body. Without going so far as to claim that she was sinless, she still had a very selfless, noble character and did not struggle with some of the personal issues that many recent superheroes have battled. Second, she had a very clear purpose to her life. She knew beyond any shadow of a doubt that she was created to destroy the work of Aries, and she did not let anything distract her from that mission. Next, Wonder Woman had a deep compassion for those who were suffering. Her motivations were pure, as she longed to protect helpless people. Another similarity is that Wonder Woman was treated with contempt by those in power. In her case it was due to sexism, an unwillingness to believe that a female could have anything worthwhile to contribute. And finally, she saw that love was the only power strong enough to defeat the forces of evil.

When we get past the similarities and point out the contrasts with the life of Jesus, we see clearly how human creations miss the mark. Wonder Woman was born into a royal family and lived in a paradise totally cut off from the turmoil of the world. Jesus was born in a stable, forced into a nomadic lifestyle by the Romans, and had to flee for his life from a jealous king. Wonder Woman was absolutely gorgeous,

whereas the Bible states that our Messiah "had no form or majesty that we should look at him, and no beauty that we should desire him." (Isaiah 53:2). Wonder Woman consistently used her powers to protect her and her friends from physical harm. When faced with the ultimate threat to his life, Jesus refused to call on the 12 legions of angels who were at his disposal. This last point is really the most important: God chose the path of suffering for our Savior. Rather than using a show of force to defeat Satan, he caused his only son to absorb the punishment for our sin and identify with his creation by sharing in its pain.

When we see our world in turmoil, how do we respond? Do we seek to use the powers at our disposal to eradicate evil with a show of force? Do we put faith in economic, political, and military might to solve intractable problems that have no easy solutions? Or do we seek to point people to the Prince of Peace, the Messiah who invites us to join in his work of redemption by joining in his suffering? The way that God chose to save the world is very different than what most humans would choose. The ancient Jews were looking for a Messiah who would overthrow the Roman Empire, and the temptation to seek that route is still with us. Rather than seeking a shortcut approach which is bound to fail, let us make it the main objective of our life to point others to the true Savior whose teachings provide the only real hope for the salvation we all desire. ■

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how do we respond?"*

# FARM SCIENCE REVIEW

By Levi Miller

On September 19 – 21, a total of 113,836 people from all over the world converged on the Molly Caren facilities north of London to review the latest in the Agriculture Arena. The annual event is in its 55th year and is put on by the Ohio State University College of Food, Agriculture and Environmental Science (CFAES). CFAES is the nation's largest university Ag-Bio Science research enterprise.

People came to learn about the latest innovations in techniques of farming and the latest equipment available on exhibit among the 642 exhibitors. There were seminars with safety tips for farmers, field demonstrations on drones and drainage tile, and much more.

Our church has been asked for the past few years to assist the Kiwanis Club of Hilliard with their Bob Evans Food Tent. This year a number of LCF people assisted. We are assigned to various tasks—including serving customers to making sausage gravy, eggs, and heating up sausage patties, brats and chicken. We are also permitted to eat of the goodies available, receive free parking permits, and free passes to the Farm Science Review. The church is paid minimum wages for our services. The money is designated for our church projects. It's not a big fund raiser, but it's one I enjoy doing.

The event brought back memories of how farming used to be. I grew up on a farm, first in Indiana, then in Iowa, when I was 9 years old. In Indiana, we farmed with horses. We owned 80 acres and rented another 40 acres nearby. I helped with the evening chores, threw hay out of the hay mow, and helped with milking. In Iowa, we had a 120-acre farm and rented some land from neighbors.

Farming then was much more diversified. We had milk cows, a few beef cows, about a dozen sows, and a bunch of chickens. We also had a garden and a truck patch (a term used to refer to larger patches set aside for corn, strawberries, etc.) along with an apple orchard, as well as peach, pear and apricot trees. Except for a few basics such as sugar, flour, salt and such, the farm people in my day were pretty much self-sufficient. During my time at home, the cows were all milked by hand as were most of our neighbors' cows. We sold



milk, cream, eggs, and pigs for income. The oats and corn we grew were fed to the livestock. Most farmers made a pretty decent living.

In the early 1940s, combines and balers were just coming in to use. The early versions were not considered very efficient, so it took a number of years for the new inventions to become incorporated into the farming business. Mechanical corn pickers were used to pick ears of corn, without shelling them. Today, picker/sheller equipment is used to harvest corn. We practiced crop rotation. It was corn followed by oats and clover hay the next year. The third year it became a pasture field or a hay field followed by corn again. We did lime our fields, but only used manure as fertilizer. The corn was husked by hand, loaded onto a wagon and unloaded into a corn crib by hand. The corn was generally planted in hills of 3 - 4 kernels and was referred to as checked. This was so rows could be cultivated in all directions—what weeds the cultivating didn't take care of we hoed by hand. We didn't use a combine on our oats but used a binder which put out bundles of oats, which were then put up in shocks. Neighbors would help each other by forming a threshing ring to harvest the oats. Among Amish communities you can still see the shocks of oats and wheat out in the fields waiting to be threshed.

By the late 40s, things began to change. Soon after I left home my father invested in a corn picker and milking parlor. He also

began having his hay baled. It was still pretty labor intensive. How hay and straw is baled has also changed. Today you see big round bales and large square bales out in the fields. These are all mechanically loaded or transported. Very few of the smaller rectangular bales are around any more. In my day those approximately 75-pound bales were loaded and handled by workers.

Today, farming is completely different. It's a specialty business. There are grain farmers, hog farmers, dairy farmers, chicken farmers, turkey farmers, etc. Most everything is done on a large scale with modern equipment. Instead of two-row corn planters, 36-row corn planters are available. Combines are used for both corn and beans by merely changing the heads. In the spring of the year you may have noticed the perfectly straight-planted rows of corn. Computers are set and send the planter on its way. With the use of commercial fertilizer and planting corn closer together, farmers have doubled their yields.

Just like the farmers of old, today's farmers also operate with variables they have little or no control over, such as the weather. Prices are influenced not only by local conditions, but by conditions in other parts of the world where similar crops are grown.

It's good to remember the past and how things used to be, but it will be interesting to see what the future holds for farming. ■

# Decor Ministry Highlight

By Pam Stanforth & Karla Knief



If you appreciate the arts, you probably like to visit museums and galleries, attend the many art festivals around Ohio, or even create your own art. Did you know that we at LCF have some very artistic and talented people who contribute to making our church a more beautiful place? Pam Stanforth and Karla Knief head up the Décor Ministry, and here is what they would like you to know about the many ways art has beautified our worship experience and how you can be a part of making that happen.

As you walk throughout the church, there are many décor projects that have been created by individuals or groups. For instance, in the Nursery, the wall mural was created by Bonnie Stewart and other volunteers. There are other mediums such as the Hands Cross, which Bonnie worked with the children to create, displayed in the hallway past the Nursery, the Wood Cross at the front entrance made by Kelvin Snyder, and the photography piece by Karla Knief near the water fountain.

The ministry began as part of the interior decorating project committee during the building phase of LCF. The Décor Ministry is responsible for temporary and permanent decorations such as altar arrangements, room, hallway, and foyer décor, and seasonal arrangements for Easter, spring, summer, fall, Thanksgiving, and Christmas.

We are looking for others who want to use their talents and gifts to bring praise to God through art expressions. We have many opportunities for you to help us, with a variety of mediums that may be used. Also, we need “muscle” to help put the tall tree up for Christmas—someone who is good on ladders and who would like to help take the arrangements and decorations down after Christmas. Participation in any of the areas we mentioned does not require help every month or require attendance at ministry meetings. There are five key times a year when we need to change décor.

If you are an individual or group who would like to help out on a temporary basis or ongoing basis, please contact Pam Stanforth at 937-974-5183. ■



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*What did you think? If any of the stories in this Connection sparked an idea or opinion you'd like to share, email us at [secretary@lcfweb.org](mailto:secretary@lcfweb.org). Editors: Theresa Hennis, Amie Smith, and Doris Swartz. If you prefer that we do not use photos of you in the Connection, you may opt out by emailing us at [connection@lcfweb.org](mailto:connection@lcfweb.org).*