

MISSION

...is a word with several shades of meaning. But the root of it has to with sending or going out.

Sometimes that suggests a group of people going out with a message from the church, as missionaries traditionally do.

We understand it more as a sending of ourselves. Inside are some of the ways in which we do that, and some of the places to which we go.

"The church exists by mission," said theologian Emil Brunner, "as a fire exists by burning." The more we give ourselves away, the more we find our life enriched and strengthened.

Mission is not simply a program emphasis at Redeemer. We strive to make it a part of our identity as individual Christians. Many of our members volunteer in hospitals and charitable organizations.

For us, it is more than a matter of being kind. Mission is one expression of our commitment to justice; our service in the neighborhood and the world reflects our desire that all the earth should enjoy God's abundant gifts.

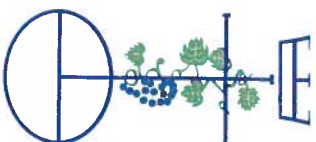
CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER has long been particularly committed to mission in the community, across the society, around the world. Our denomination, the United Church of Christ, is responsible for founding both Deaconess and Fairview Hospitals.

BUT WE'RE MORE than just the sum of our mission efforts. We have an outstanding program of faith formation on Sunday mornings for children from nursery age through high school, adult Bible study and discussion groups, a daytime and an evening women's organization, a Cub Scout pack, a prayer/study group, and more.

OUR WORSHIP is centered on the Sunday morning service at 10:30, celebrating communion on the first Sunday each month. We have three Christmas Eve services, plus a "Blue Christmas" service at the winter solstice for those whose holidays are not so jolly. Once a month we hold a service of healing prayer prior to the morning worship. For more information, pick up a copy of our newsletter, *The Grapevine* (this property was once a vineyard), or see our website, www.cornuc.org; our office hours are 9:00 to noon Monday through Friday.

**No matter who you are
or where you are on life's journey,
you are welcome here.**

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**REDEEMER
IN
SERVICE**

**Mission and
Ministry**

MISSION IN THE COMMUNITY

Here are some of the more close-to-home, hands-on efforts we invest in:

- The Interfaith Hospitality Network provides families with temporary housing while helping with issues of employment, budgeting, and so on. We join with a sister church in providing meals and other services to the guests.

- Journey to Bethlehem is our annual live Nativity program, with real animals, shepherds and Magi, and a message of the season. Hundreds of visitors attend this event each December.

- Souper Support is a new meal program that brings meals to workers at The Hospice of the Western Reserve and to volunteers in local projects of Habitat for Humanity.

- Parish Nurse Jane Lokiec offers regular public programs on health-related issues, such as dental care, medication safety, and veterans' benefits.

- Church Street Ministries in Berea is a mission we support with contributions of money and goods, and also with volunteer time in their Second Mile Thrift Shop.

- Building Hope in the City is a Lutheran ministry we support as it helps refugees and legal immigrants settle in urban northeast Ohio. Volunteers bring tutoring and mentoring skills to the task of making new neighbors feel at home.

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Emil Brunner

- In addition to these, we send tons of food, school supplies, and more to area hunger centers. We also offer material support to the work of the West Side Ecumenical Ministries and St. Paul's UCC in Ohio City.

MISSION IN THE WORLD

Through the United Church of Christ and other agencies, we support a large number of ministries beyond the region, such as:

- Eye Care, which sends teams of doctors and opticians to provide improved sight to the people of Central America.

- The Asian Rural Institute, which teaches farmers from Africa and Asia about sustainable agriculture.

- Church World Service, which disperses aid in disasters as well as development assistance.

- We have sent support for some years to Ana Sheila Lacson, a student (whom we first knew as a little girl) at Kalawan School in the Philippines. Connections like these are made through the joint Global Ministries of the UCC and the Christian Church (Disciples).

