

January 6, 2010

Sunday worship schedule: 8:30 A.M. & 10:40 A.M.



From the Minister's desk

It's hard to believe that we're several days into a new year! December went quickly, but with wonderful highlights: the children's program, choir presentation, Christmas Eve service that traditionally brings so many families together!

2008 brought a first for me: a wedding on New Year's Eve. Allison Blackburn & James Barnard were married here in Berea. 2009 brought another New Year's Eve wedding. Jane and I went to Waynesville, North Carolina, where I was invited to conduct the wedding ceremony for Paula McLin and Rick Gordon. It was a wonderful evening with many, many children and family gathered. It was a real joy to see everyone celebrating, enjoying the evening and each other's company!

Following the wedding, Jane & I took a couple of extra days to enjoy Asheville and Black Mountain. Among other things, we visited the Southern Highlands Folk Art Center, Warren Wilson College, and a number of interesting shops in Asheville and Black Mountain.

We were both struck with the number of young people in Asheville: on the streets, in the shops, in the restaurants. I believe we saw more people there, 20-30 years of age, than anywhere else we've been.

It was a bit nippy out on the streets of Asheville. I think a return trip, but in warmer weather, would be in order!

As you know, we've had a regular Bible Study class each Wednesday morning. I had planned to resume class on January 13, but need to delay that until February 10. Over the next weeks, Jane will have cataract surgery involving both eyes. Due to the surgery and follow-up schedules, class meetings would be erratic. It seems best simply to wait until February 10 to resume classes.

Wishing all of you a Happy New Year!
Ed

Elders' Prayer

Please join the Elders in prayer during our time of transition, offering this prayer each day: *Lord, help us continue to listen, that we might be obedient to your guidance, building in one accord, serving you and glorifying your name.*

Please remember our general fund and our building fund.

Please remember that good stewardship is important.

Please pray for ...

Ernie Murray
Vickie Simmons
Steve Taulbee
Laura Crawford
Peggy Kelly
James VanWinkle
George Harrison
Pat Hensley
Ernestine West
Christine Cope
Father of Sherry Duerson
Gwynne Griffith
David Abney
Ozella Gilbert

In recent weeks we have had members who have lost loved ones. Please remember these members and families in your thoughts and prayers:

Janie Taulbee and family
Larry Blair and family
Hannah Phillips (nursery attendant) and family
James & Allison (Blackburn) Barnard and family

Building Committee Update:

The committee continues to review the work that's being done and has an active "aesthetic quality" subcommittee, which is reviewing colors and other items that will contribute to the quality of the finished work. Sound system and closed circuit TV information is being gathered. Everyone in the church will be invited to contribute a small item, if they wish, to be placed in a wall of the new building. There will also be a time set aside for the congregation to autograph wooden studs in the building. The Building Committee meets on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

Notes From the Trustees:

As you watch the new building take shape, please remember your pledges. We have received over 160,000 in pledges Nov. '08 thru Oct. '09. Our 3 year goal is 371,000. The trustees have taken out a construction loan at Peoples Bank in order to continue with construction of the new building.

Note From the Treasurer

Please remember to note on your checks where you would like your offering to go (Building Fund, General Fund, Capital Campaign).

January Birthdays

Roger Osborne	January 1
Jackie Perman	January 2
Shelby Renzenbrink	January 3
Jason Simmons	January 3
Wayne Hymer	January 4
Bryce Gill	January 6
Angela Sowers	January 8
Chris Kelley	January 9
Don Donovan	January 10
Ryan Bennett	January 14
Janie Hammond	January 15
Tonya Renzenbrink	January 16
James Gilbert	January 18
Dawson Keith	January 18
Ruth Nickell	January 20

McKenzie Richardson	January 20
Will Bondurant	January 22
Jimmy Pullins	January 23
Derek Simmons	January 23
Leona Blackburn	January 24
Gerald Roberts	January 24
Casey Boggs	January 25
Kerry Taulbee	January 26
Isaac Alexander	January 29
Jerry Gilbert	January 29
Bill Libert	January 29
Peter Blair	January 30
Rocky Borders	January 30
Robert Hughes	January 30

Thank You Notes

Thank you for sponsoring six of our students at Shannon Johnson & Silver Creek Elementary. Your generosity is always such a blessing to our families. Thank you for supporting our center.
Lisa Gay & Janice Easterling
South Madison Family Resource Center

Helping Hands Ministry

Mary Ann Foster is heading up our "Helping Hands Ministry". The intention behind the "Helping Hands" is to assist primarily our senior members in getting things done that they can no longer easily do without putting themselves in some jeopardy. This ministry is not designed to be a comprehensive home repair service, but might involve such things as changing the washer in a dripping faucet or a light bulb that's hard to reach. If you want to volunteer to be one of the "helping hands" or if you are in need of a helping hand, please contact Mary Ann at 986-3557 or her cell at 302-3026.

Wednesday Night Meals

The first Wednesday evening meal of each month will be a "Pot Luck" meal. Please remember on Jan. 6th to bring your favorite dish to share with us.

Youth Choir Activities

Youth Chimes Ensemble practices begin Jan. 6 at 6:15 pm.

Youth Activities

Thanks go out to all who stepped up to help with all of our little projects for Dec.

Service Projects:

Fri. Jan 8th – 6:00 – 7:30 pm Pre K to 2nd grade

Pizza & Bird feeder making at the church

Wed. Jan 13th & 20th, Mon. Jan 18th (choose ONE)

4:00 – 5:00 pm Youth 3rd grade & up to work at the Food Bank.

FUN STUFF

Sun. Jan 17th – Youth & families to the Perfect North Slopes for tubing. We will leave after the 8:30 service.

Cost is 20.00 per person for tubing.

Announcements for Newsletters & Bulletin

Please be aware of the time deadline for announcements to the weekly bulletin and newsletter:

Weekly Bulletin:

Wednesday by 12:00

Monthly Newsletter:

12:00 on the 20th of Each Month

It would also be most helpful if the individual Committee Chairpersons would pass on any Committee announcements to the office. Thank you for your help in these matters.

New Women's Group

The New Women's Group has a name, the official name is "Dorothy Wagers' Sisters of Spirit" (DWSOS). They will meet on Jan. 21 at 7:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall.



CWM Rebecca Circle

CWM Rebecca Circle will start holding their meetings on the first Wednesday afternoon at 3:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall. This will be before the Wednesday Evening Meals. All women of the church are invited to attend. We hope to see you on Jan. 6th at 3:30 pm.

Welcome

We welcome Talon Clinton Haley (Kaitlyn Workman & Travis Haley), born Dec. 28th weighing in at 7 lbs 12 oz & 20 inches tall. Proud grandparents are Andy & Chris Workman. Great grandparents are Jerry & Ele Workman.