



South Winds



News from South Ashland UMC

Anchored to the Rock

Relevant to the Times

Reaching to the Future!

January 2008

Lance Campbell
Sr. Pastor

Michael McAllister
Associate & Youth Minister

Director of Children's Ministries

Bev Moore
Director of Worship & Nurture

Joyce Neill
Secretary

Becky Gehringer
Pianist

Eric Akers
Organist

Pat Crawford
Nursery Coordinator

Ministry Team Leaders:

Martha Rice
Worship Team

Jerry Mounce
Evangelism Team

Steve & Darlene Meyers
Outreach Team

Mark & Paulette Meenach
Discipleship Team

Don & Gloria Neikirk
Cheryl Spears
Fellowship Team

Ed Spears
Support Team

Cynde Elkins
Prayer Coordinator

Praise Team:

Clancy Hatfield
Rick Leake
Becky Gehringer
Bev Moore
Martha Rice
Kathy Hatfield
Jenny Johnson
Mary Lou Forman

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Leadership Notes

by Lance Campbell

"Teach us to number our days aright, that we may gain a heart of wisdom."

-Psalm 90:12

I went to elementary school with a kid who had the dubious distinction of being born on February 29. It had to have been awkward—when do you celebrate your birthday? When you are forty years old can you rightly tell people that you've celebrated only ten birthdays? We wonder about things like that because we are a people who live in time. Human beings over the ages have pondered the subject of time, ever striving to grasp its meaning. As one year ends and another begins our ponderings become more focused. What did we do right last year? What do we want to change in the year to come? How does God want us to use the next 366 days? (That's right—2008 is a leap year.)

The Bible reminds us to make the most of our days as each moment of our present life touches eternity. The words of the ancient psalm are as relevant today as they were when they were written: "Lord...Teach us to number our days aright, that we may gain a heart of wisdom" (*Psalm 90:12*).

To rightly number our days is to allot our resources wisely, to live in a way that pleases God and accomplishes his purposes. To be truly wise stewards of the coming year we have to ask: What is really going to matter at the end of the year? What can we do today that will be of timeless value? What do we want to accomplish? What do we want 2008 to look like?

To make this personal, try this exercise. In your mind's eye, go forward in time one year from now, to January 2009. As you look back at 2008, what did you do that has lasting value? In what ways did you help usher in the Kingdom? Is the world a more Christ-like place because of what you did? What can you look back on with satisfaction? Once you complete this exercise take the next step—do it!

"Come, follow me." Let's see where Jesus leads our church.

New Year's Blessings,
Lance

Honors and Memorials



Bereavement Committee:

**In Memory of Sarah Fraley. Given by Roberta Tipton & Kitty Kouns.

Budget:

**In Loving Memory of Sarah Fraley. Given by:

- Carl & Stella Pennington
- Jo Ann Beloat
- June Childers

Emma Alley & Frances Hutchinson

**In Loving Memory of Margaret Cheap. Given by Glenna Lett.

Building Campaign:

**In Love & Honor of all those who made our Christmas Cantata such a wonderful blessing. You know who you are, and so does He. Given by John & Jil McClanahan.

**In Love & Honor of Carl & Stella Pennington for their 50th Wedding Anniversary. Given by Rannie & Charlene Cooper.

**In Loving Memory of Margaret Cheap. Given by Rannie & Charlene Cooper.

**In Loving Memory of Sarah Fraley. Given by Rannie & Charlene Cooper.

Choir Fund:

**In Loving Memory of Caralyn Elam. Given by John & Jil McClanahan.

Costa Rica Farm:

**In Love & Honor of Ed & Cheryl Spears. Given by Ed, Cindy & Josh.

Mortgage Fund Principal:

**In Loving Memory of James Christy. Given by the Wesley Class.

Prayer Garden:

**In Loving Memory of Margaret Cheap. Given by JoAnn Beloat & Doris Neltner.

Social Concerns:

**In Loving Memory of Sarah Fraley. Given by Jerry & Joy Daniel.

Deaths



Our most heartfelt sympathy is extended to:

- Joe & Kerri Elam and family in the death of his mother, Caralyn Elam.
- Bill & Faye Fannin and family in the death of his brother-in-law, James Christy.

Children's Ministry

Dear Church Family,

The children had several activities centered around others in December, ones I hope they will remember in later years. First they made dozens of chocolate chip, peanut butter and sugar cookies then, they made 21 polar fleece lap blankets. Those were taken to Woodland Oaks on a Sunday evening where they also sang Christmas Carols to some of the residents. On Wednesday the 18th we celebrated Jesus birth with a present day birthday party including inflatables, face painting, balloons, pizza and cupcakes. Then on December 23rd we had a party just for Alma. The children brought her lots of fun gifts including baby dolls. It was a great month of sharing and caring.

If you haven't heard already I will be leaving my position as Director of Children's Ministries as of December 31st. I have taken a position at Hillcrest Bruce Mission where I worked previous to having my second child. It is a part time position with very few weeknight or weekend hours which will allow me more time with my little ones. I would like to thank all of you for your prayers and support and for allowing me the opportunity to minister to the children. I have learned a lot from the children and will continue to keep them in my thoughts and prayers as I hope you will also. Have a blessed New Year.

Love,
Maebelle Shepherd

Costa Rica Mission Update

My prayer is that each of you had a blessed and merry Christmas. As I was praying the other day, Marion Woods, our Costa Rica missionary, came to my mind as he does very often. It was the day after our last church administrative board meeting. At this meeting the budget for 2008 was approved and part of the budget was for our sister church in Pital Costa Rica. We will be supporting them in the amount of \$3600.00 next year. After praying I called Marion to give him this great news. As we talked about life there and what great blessings God was still performing in his life, he started to cry. These were tears of joy and thankfulness that God once again had heard and answered his prayers....well this made me start to cry also. After the tears we stopped and prayed for a long time, what a blessing to have this amazing man of God in my life. He wanted me to thank each one of you for this support and the support we have been providing to his ministry. A long story to say thanks but a very important story about prayer and how God uses each one of us for His purposes.

I am so excited that we have taken on another mission field with our sister church in Pital. You will hear much about this in the coming year.

Your team will be going next month to Costa Rica and will be working at Pital and at the center and wherever else God sends us. Will you please pray for the seventeen members. We need your prayers and any monetary support you want to give would be greatly appreciated. Just mark the funds as Costa Rica Farm support and we will take it to Costa Rica and let God put it to work.

In His Love and Service,
Eduardo Spears

South Ashland UMC Treasurer's Report November 2007

Current Month	Budget Items	Specials	Mortgage	Totals
Beginning Balance	\$ 52,598.21	\$43,548.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 96,146.21
Receipts	37,482.35	8,799.63	2,234.00	48,515.98
Disbursements	(39,775.22)	(14,834.29)	(2,234.00)	(56,843.51)
Transfer	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Closing Balance	\$ 50,305.34	\$37,513.34	\$ 0.00	\$ 87,818.68
Year-to-Date				
Balance 12/31/06	\$ 89,070.02	\$56,047.80	\$ 0.00	\$145,117.82
Receipts	438,801.26	52,039.26	27,371.00	518,211.52
Disbursements	(478,205.04)	(70,873.72)	(27,371.00)	(576,449.76)
Transfer	639.10	300.00	0.00	939.10
Closing Balance	\$ 50,305.34	\$37,513.34	\$ 0.00	\$ 87,818.68