



new community united methodist church

COMMUNITY NOTES

January 27, 2008

Leadership Team Update From Vickye Ashton

The 2008 Leadership Team had its first meeting of the year on January 7, 2008. We had returning members Rich Johnson, Vickye Ashton and Ken Rawlings along with new members Erin Mills, Jan Heady, Kelly Iden, Paul Mertens and Jerry Straughn. Elizabeth McDaniel was present as our Lay Leader.

It was decided that we would create a newsletter article each month to the congregation, going over the information discussed in our meeting. It is important to us that you, the congregation, are kept up to date and included on the information in these meetings. Communication, both ways, is important if we are to best serve the congregation's needs.

With that in mind, an Ad Hoc committee has been formed to look at Sunday morning worship services. The purpose of this committee is to gather information regarding the needs of the congregation on Sunday morning. They are currently working on the best way to gather this information from you. Members of both Leadership and Support are on the committee. More exciting info to come later.

Save the Date

***You will want to put these upcoming events
in your date book***

- Tonight, Friday January 25 at 6 PM, Monthly Potluck
- Sunday, January 27 at 12:30 Church Conference to approve the Pastor's Compensation Package for 2008
- Friday, February 1 at 10 AM, First Friday
- Wednesday, February 6th at 7:00 PM, Ash Wednesday Service

Church Conference Set For This Sunday, January 27th At 12:30

See page 3 for more information.

Support Team Meeting Update from Pat Pinckney

After a dinner and joint meeting with the Leadership Team on January 7, 2008, the Support Team met to discuss the year ahead and to elect officers. Support Team members are Sandy Edmondson, Rob Fisher, Clark Ide, Pat Menke, JoAnn Merickel, Russ Mills, Pat Pinckney, Mike Rawlings, and Ginger Straughn. Pat Menke was elected Chairman, Pat Pinckney, Secretary and JoAnn Merickel, Treasurer. The group selected the second Monday of each month at 4:30 PM for their meeting time. The meetings are open to members of the congregation who would like to attend. Meetings are open with the exception of confidential discussion of staff matters.

- Mike Rawlings, JoAnn Merickle and Rob Fisher will represent the Support Team on a temporary Worship Committee chaired by the Leadership Team, to discuss and consider structure and content of our worship program.
- The Pastor's Compensation package will be presented to the congregation for approval at a parish general meeting on Sunday, January 27.
- The Thrift Store portion of the church building is scheduled for roof repair.

Please feel free to contact any member of the Support Team with your suggestions or concerns. We feel communication with the congregation at large is very important to a successful new year.



What's Happening



First Friday

Ladies: Mark you calendars for the First Friday gathering on February 1, from 10 AM until Noon in Whittenburg Hall. Childcare is provided. Come for warm fellowship, friendship, and a program by Jamie Dobson and Lori Silverman on Yoga and Spirituality. Bring a bakery item or some cut-up fruit to share in a potluck brunch. Wear some comfortable clothes—we may do some stretching. If you have any questions, please call Pat Pinckney (641-7748) or Linda Wallace (641-2240).

Prayer Group

The next meeting of our prayer class will be on

Tuesday, February 5 at 10:30 in the chapel

Let's Talk

There are a lot of reasons for chatting over a cup of coffee. It could be to simply get acquainted. Or, maybe it is an opportunity to ask a nagging question, build a relationship, or discuss the morning's sermon. If you would like to share a cup of coffee with Pastor Jim and talk about whatever happens to be on your mind, come by Starbucks (behind Quiznos and Jamba Juice on Highway 41) on Sundays from 2 until 3.

Ash Wednesday

Please join us in the sanctuary at 7:00 PM on February 6th for our Ash Wednesday service.

Financial Recap Ending December 31, 2007

	Dec. 2007	Dec. 2006	Year End 2007	Year End 2006
Weekly Giving	\$15,549.50	21,819.84	166,891.01	210,493.96
Special Giving	5,756.46	5,197.33	81,562.69	74,389.76
Designated Income	215.00	40.00	7,781.00	4,249.00
Program Income	167.50	494.00	5,996.33	9,381.00
Total Income	\$21,688.46	\$27,551.17	262,231.03	298,513.72
Pastor and Staff Expense	\$13,437.96	16,889.65	210,013.35	228,311.20
Program Expenses	1,791.66	2,065.08	27,979.50	40,625.26
Operating Expenses	4,578.78	3,043.91	44,046.86	48,627.60
Apportionments/Benevolences	0.00	701.32	18,279.00	12,096.43
Building Improvements	0.00	0.00	7,398.16	10,175.62
Total Expenses	\$19,808.40	\$22,700.96	\$307,716.87	\$339,836.11
Thrift Shop Net Income	\$3,087.44	6,196.63	44,535.62	36,572.45
Difference Income/Expense	\$ 4,967.50	11,046.84	(950.22)	(4,749.94)

Notes: 1. Both giving and expenses were down from the prior year. 2. Sales and income for the Thrift Shop were up from the prior year. Thanks go to Ron Nisar and all the volunteers for a fantastic year. 3. Though we increased our apportionment payment to the Annual Conference for the year to \$18,279, it was less than the amount billed \$26,439. This is the first year we have not paid the entire amount. Next year our billing is \$69,590 and we do not expect to pay the entire amount. (Amounts unpaid are not carried into future years.) 4. The Support Team took into account the lower revenue figures when compiling the budget for 2008. Copies of the budget are available in the church office.

If this has been forwarded from a friend and you would like to receive it regularly, please email us at news@newcommunityumc.net

Church Conference This Sunday

As was announced the last two Sundays, the District Superintendent has set a church conference for this Sunday, January 27th at 12:30 for the purpose of approving the Pastor's Compensation Package for 2008. You will recall that the final work on the package had not been completed prior to our December Church Conference. That work is now complete and ready for presentation to the congregation.

The package recommended by the Support Team, along with the 2007 figures for your comparison, are listed below:

	2008	2007
Salary	\$38,934	\$38,934
Housing and Utilities	23,676	23,676
Health Insurance	5,600	11,488
Reimbursable Expenses	8,500	8,500
Total	76,710	82,598

Ash Wednesday Service

Wednesday February 6 at 7:00 PM

Lent is a season of forty days, not counting Sundays, which begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on Holy Saturday. Lent comes from the Anglo-Saxon word *lencten*, which means "spring." The season is a preparation for celebrating Easter. Historically, Lent began as a period of fasting and preparation for baptism by converts and then became a time for penance by all Christians.

Ash Wednesday emphasis a dual encounter: we confront our own mortality and confess our sin before God within the community of faith. The form and content of the service focus on the dual themes of sin and death in the light of God's redeeming love in Jesus Christ.

The use of ashes as a sign of mortality and repentance has a long history in Jewish and Christian worship, and the Imposition of Ashes can be a powerful nonverbal and experiential way of participating in the call to repentance and reconciliation. This practice is the historic focus of Ash Wednesday observance and gave the day its name. It is traditional to save palm branches from the previous Palm Sunday service and burn them ahead of time to produce the ashes for the Ash Wednesday Service. We invite you to join us on Wednesday, February 6, for this traditional observance.

Sunday, January 6, 2008

Worship Attendance (Includes childcare and children's activities concurrent with service)

Mountainsong	9
Morningsong	77
Spiritsong	54
Total	140

Tithes and Offering	\$2,315.00
Offering Plate	190.00
Loose Change	68.50
Sunday School Offering	7.00
Facility Gifts (Use Fees)	85.00
Fair Trade Purchases	29.00
Total Gifts	\$2,694.50

Sunday, January 13, 2008

Worship Attendance	
Mountainsong	15
Morningsong	86
Spiritsong	61
Total	162

Tithes and Offering	\$3,854.00
Offering Plate	73.00
Loose Change	48.00
Sunday School Offering	9.00
Community Meal Gifts	224.50
Building Improvement Gifts	5.00
Fair Trade Purchases	14.00
Total Gifts	\$4227.50

Sunday, January 20, 2008

Worship Attendance	
Mountainsong	12
Morningsong	84
Spiritsong	51
Total	147

Tithes and Offering	\$1,980.00
Offering Plate	131.00
Loose Change	40.00
Sunday School Offering	8.00
Facility Gifts (Use Fees)	525.00
Community Meal Gifts	87.00
Building Improvement Gifts	30.00
Fair Trade Purchases	42.00
Total Gifts	\$2,843.00