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The Window

Pendleton Street Baptist Church

Connect with God..... Connect to Grow..... Connect in Service

Volume VII, Issue 19

January 2008

Happy New Year!

Life in Christ is Extraordinary! It is wonderful to be a part of a church family that is yielded to go "Beyond the Walls" sharing the love and life of Jesus with others! Suzanne, Dani and I have just returned from Mississippi where we had a wonderful visit with family. One of the defining characteristics of Suzanne's family is generosity, and we returned with a good bit more in the car than we had traveling south. We were literally "packed" into Suzanne's car, and any movement or shifting required a great deal of attention and effort— not because we didn't want or need to move around, but simply because there was so much "good stuff" all around us. As I was sitting in the passenger seat juggling pillows, a book, various food items, and a suitcase on the floorboard I thought about our family here at PSBC.

We have made the choice to be a movement of God today rather than simply a monument to His activity in the past. We know that God has placed us here and kept us here to help people exchange ordinary lives for extraordinary living through Jesus. What we must constantly be aware of the tendency to allow good things to crowd in around us restricting us from focusing on the essentials.

So begin the New Year by:

- ◆ **Connecting with God** in worship. As we worship Him together, hearing from His Word and responding in obedience we corporately connect with Him, and lost people are introduced to Him.
- ◆ **Connecting to Grow** in a small group. Life in Christ is a process that God has designed for us to enjoy together. Sunday School and Small Groups are wonderful for deepening our relationship with Jesus and with one another.
- ◆ **Connecting in Service.** God is so gracious to allow us to be channels through which He expresses His life and love to others. Whether it is working with children, serving on a ministry team, or going on a mission trip - God has a place of service for you.

Looking Ahead 2008



The evening will begin with a meal, followed by music, highlights from 2007, and a look at our vision for 2008. The cost of the meal is \$4.00 per person; reservations are required. When making a reservation please indicate your preference for chicken fingers or BBQ. Each meal will be served with potato salad, cole slaw, rolls, and dessert. Please contact the church office by January 9, 2008 to make your reservation.

God is good indeed!

Marty

Drama Anyone?

On Friday, January 25, we have the unique opportunity to host the national touring company of **The Jeremiah People**. They are a musical drama troupe that will present, *Family Snaps*. In the course of this musical, you will be quickly caught up in the crosscurrents of the Bailey family. *Family Snaps* is a poignant dramatic comedy about family relationships and friends, with a depth of focus that touches the many facets of being a family in the 21st century. One thread of the script involves the soon-to-be-married (then, newly married) son and his fiancé; another looks at being married and being parents; a third deals with the passage into adolescence. All are woven together around the renovation of a newly purchased mountain cabin. But when jealousy and suspicion begin to fill the house, the results are realistic and thoughtful. The fundamental wisdom of the play is carried through an eccentric yet charming elderly woman, Aunt Matty, who lives in the small town near the cabin. You will not want to miss this entertaining evening. Please invite your friends and family to join you as we experience life with the Bailey family together. The presentation will begin at 7:00 p.m. in our Worship Center.

Small Group News

Thank you to all of our small groups who participated this Christmas season in ministering to those less fortunate! Whether you worked through Operation Christmas Child, the Mitten Tree, your Sunday School class, or your age-related ministry group, many of you, sometimes on multiple occasions, have been the hands and feet of Christ by providing food, clothing, and assistance to those around us in need. You have **Connected to Serve** and in so doing have impacted another's life with the love of Christ.

As I have been working some with the Ministry Placement Team in recent weeks, I have compiled a summary sheet of all of the spiritual gift assessments that have been taken among our congregation in the last ten years. It is interesting to me that the three most common spiritual gifts among those surveyed are **Helps, Giving, and Mercy**. I believe God has connected this gifted body to a community with immediate needs for a reason. I am excited to see His plans for us in the coming year. In 2008, we will be intentionally focusing on **Connecting with God, Connecting to Grow, and Connecting to Serve**. Begin praying now that God will open your eyes to the places He would have you join Him in His work in the coming year. **Happy New Year!**

Youth News

New Years! New Life! New Toys! New Commitments! New EVERYTHING! The beginning of a new year is an awesome time to recommit to things in the past that you have fallen away from. Things change, people change, and times change. In a world that is so fast and so changing, and so focused on the new, best and brightest, it's important for our focus to remain on what is consistent, that is the **love of God**. Pray for the youth this January as we do a series based out of John and 1 Peter called L.I.F.E. We are going to deal with some tough real life issues, along with figuring out what life is all about. Here are some important dates to remember!!

- **Avalanche Youth Conference:** **January 18-20 (\$\$ due ASAP)**
- **Small Group Series:** **January 6 and 27 ONLY**
- **Worship on Wednesday:** **Every Wednesday at 6:00 p.m.**

Evangelism

One of our main concerns this time of year is getting sick as a result of contracting another person's virus. While we do not want to share our sickness with someone else, we do want to spread our faith with others, as "contagious" Christians. Later this month, several of our Sunday school classes will be starting a six-week evangelism course called *Becoming a Contagious Christian*. One of my desires is to see our church body become excited about sharing their faith with their unchurched friends, coworkers, family members, and neighbors. What is also important to remember is that we can always be witnesses just by remembering to continually love God and others. Scripture confirms that our worship of God (Acts 2:47) and our love for one another (John 13:34-35) can actually be evangelistic. As we go into the new year, let us glorify God in this way, and as we learn how to share our faith, let us become more intentional in our evangelism efforts!

Happy New Year!

Pastor Ted

Senior Adult News

Isn't it amazing how quickly the Christmas season comes and goes each year? I am thankful that as Christians we have the unique privilege of being able to celebrate Christmas in December...or January...or June. I hope that you were able to rejoice in the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ with your family and friends, and my prayer is that you will continue to celebrate His presence in your heart throughout 2008.

Mildred



Our **trip to Connie Maxwell Children's Home** was a wonderful experience for all of the twenty church members who were able to go with us! From the fabulous meal at Cracker Barrel to the wagon ride through the beautifully decorated campus, we were able to enjoy the sights and sounds of the season. Most importantly, we enjoyed spending time with our adopted child, Anthony. The trip was a great reminder of the real meaning of Christmas for all of us.

Praise the Lord for the 38 members who were able to attend our **annual Christmas Brunch** on December 11th!

Upcoming Events:

Please register for these classes at the Ministry Information Center.

Portrait Painting Class

Begins January 7th for 8 weeks
Cost: \$50.00 per person

Art Class

Begins March 3rd for 8 weeks
Cost: \$40.00 per person

Many thanks to the Senior Adult Team for their hard work and dedication in 2007! Please let them know how much their leadership is appreciated.

Ralph Aiken
Phoebe Crouch
Kat Griffeth

Jonnie Linder
J.D. Merritt
Margaret Tollison

Philippines Mission Trip **March 6– 15, 2008**

We still have openings for this mission trip. A deposit of \$932.00 is due by Sunday, January 27 in order to reserve the airline tickets. We will have a training session on this day from 2-4 p.m. in the Parlor. The balance of \$675.00 is due by Sunday, February 17. Contact Allan Clark for more information.



If you feel that God is leading you to *Connect to Serve* in 2008, we are in need of volunteers for our *Extended Session* program. You will only need to serve one Sunday every 2 or 3 months. Contact the church office at 232-7312 for more information.

Mitten Tree

Thank you to all that donated to the Mitten Tree. The mittens will be donated to a local charity.



2008

Church Treasurer

Wally Harris

Assistant Church Treasurer

J. D. Merritt

Church Clerk

Michelle King

Assistant Church Clerk

Anne Penland

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The Finance Committee recommendation regarding the 2008 Ministry Budget was approved on Sunday, December 23, 2007.



The Young Adult Ministry is in need of a few couches for their Sunday school

rooms. If you have a couch that is in decent shape, please let Pastor Ted know and he will make arrangements to have it picked up.

Lottie Moon Christmas Offering

PSBC Goal: \$13,000.00
Collected to date: \$ 9,805.00

Wednesday Fellowship Meals

January 9 - Chicken fettuccini alfredo, garlic bread, steamed broccoli, tossed salad

January 16- Meatloaf, garlic potatoes, squash casserole, yeast rolls, tossed salad

January 23- Hamburgers, baked beans, cole slaw, potato chips

January 30- Sliced roast beef, mashed potatoes and gravy, zucchini squash, yeast rolls

Children's Menu- Chicken fingers and French fries
Tea, coffee, and dessert served with each meal.

Thank you

to our friends at

Pendleton Street Baptist Church!

We want to thank all of you for recognizing our years of service in the Preschool Department. It has been a blessing to serve in such a supportive and loving church. Thank you for the notes, gifts, and well wishes.

We love and appreciate you all.

Virginia Coleman & Betty Whitaker



Newsletter Email

Starting January 2008, we will email the monthly newsletter to those who choose to receive it electronically. Please email us your email address or simply call the office, and we will send it to you.

In the event of bad weather-

- Worship services will be held as scheduled for those who can attend. Please use your own judgment about traveling in dangerous conditions.
- Service and activity cancellations or delays will be recorded on the church answering machine or at www.psbccgreenville.org., as well as sent to WYFF News.
- During the week, the church office will follow the Greenville County School System with closing and delays.