



Sunrise C.O.B. Newsletter December 2009

Sunrise Church of the Brethren 1496 South Main Street • Harrisonburg, VA 22801

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Leadership Team

Phil Stone Jr. - Acting Chair
 Judy Ritchie
 Bill Crist
 Karen Hedrick - Treasurer
 Terry Coffman - Clerk
 Joyce Hoover
 J.D. Glick - Pastor

Newsletter Team

Jeff Elliott
 Lisa Coffman

Please send newsletter submissions to Jeff Elliott at jumbo24@comcast.net or call at (540) 896-4861.

Report of the Planning Process:

At the Congregational Business Meeting on November 22, a report was given of the **Planning Process** our congregation conducted under the direction of John Neff. Beginning a year and a half ago, 61 persons completed a Church Health Analysis and our consultant individually interviewed 23 persons. Additionally, input regarding the congregation's ministries was sought in a survey and two Planning Summits were held. From these activities, five priorities or objectives were selected.

Last March Focus Groups were held to identify improvements/additions to our building which would enable us to better carry out our church's program. The next step in the process was to select a design team (architect) to develop a master plan for our property, including drawings of what it would look like with the remodeling. This would have cost \$7-8,000. At the time, the Leadership Team questioned how much interest there was in moving ahead, plus the needed funds did not seem to be in the checking account, so the process was put "on hold." *The ground-work has been done and plans for considering improvements to our facility can be renewed whenever the timing seems right.*

Our consultant has submitted his report which is about 170 pages in length, including appendices. The report includes recommendations of several areas for the congregation's focus and emphasis. These were shared at the Business Meeting. Also, a report of several programs which have already been implemented as a result of the planning process were shared.

Buy a Chicken or a Cow:

As we have done in past years, opportunity will be given again this Christmas season to make a donation to **Heifer International** (begun by Brethren Dan West) by purchasing an animal or portion of. The organization assists struggling families to become more self-reliant by providing them with food/income-producing animals. Someone will be in the Entryway through Sunday, December 13, to assist you. *Make your check payable to "Heifer International".*

Christmas Eve Service:

A **Candlelight Christmas Eve Service** of "lessons and carols" will be held in our sanctuary at 8:00 P.M. on **Thursday, December 24.** Readings retelling the Biblical story of Jesus' birth will be supplemented by a variety of musical selections. Plan to attend and bring your family and friends.

Contact Sunrise C.O.B. at • (540) 434-1773 • or email us at jdglick@verizon.net

On the Worldwide Web at... www.SunriseCOB.org

Leadership Team - Mini Minutes:

September, October, & November, 2009:

Heard the Stewardship Ministry Team report:

- A broken board on the playground equipment has been replaced and the entire unit was stained.
- They worked on the 2010 Budget to be presented to the Congregational Business Meeting.

Heard the Hospitality and Fellowship Ministry Team report:

- The all-church picnic was held in September at Purcell Park.
- 38 persons participated in Potluck Meals in four different homes on November 15.
- Our annual Birthday Party (celebrating the anniversary of our first worship service) has been scheduled for February 7, 2010.

Heard the Worship and Education Ministry Team report:

- Becky Glick has agreed to direct a children's choir during a 10 minute portion of the Sunday School time, involving pre-kindergarten through fifth graders.
- George Donovan, Jr. will be leading a new Worship Ensemble which will introduce music of a different style during our worship.
- A Dedication Service for our Rodgers Organ was held on October 25, with Gary Lowe, organist at the Thomas Road Baptist Church, performing.
- We have two youth who are planning to attend National Youth Conference next summer in Colorado. They will be traveling with the Manassas Church of the Brethren youth.
- A committee has been appointed to plan our Vacation Bible School for next summer. Cara Joiner and Missy Elliott will co-chair this committee.
- Duane Click has agreed to chair the Decorating Committee. Margaret Bolton and Gwen Whetzel will serve with her on the committee.

Heard the Outreach Ministry Team report:

- Our congregation staffed the Hot Dog stand at Red Front one day in support of the camping program at Brethren Woods. 478 hot dogs were sold during our 30 hours of donated time.
- Judy Phillippi and J. D. Glick participated in the CROP Walk on September 20. (\$660 was donated through our congregation's efforts.)
- We will be hosting the HARTS program for the homeless the week of February 15-22. (The Mill Creek Church of the Brethren will be partnering with us for part of the week.)
- We will be ringing the bell for the Salvation Army at the Wal-Mart on Rt. 42 South on Saturday, November 28.
- Again this year we will be inviting persons to take a Christmas Angel from the tree to purchase a gift for a needy child, a project of the Salvation Army.

Approved the Harrisonburg Men's Bible Study Fellowship using our building on Monday evenings.

Purchase a Poinsettia:

Poinsettias are available for purchase (\$7.00 each) which will be used to decorate our sanctuary, beginning on December 13. *You may designate your poinsettia in honor or memory of a loved one.* Call Terry Coffman (828-4653) by December 6 if you are interested in purchasing one.

A Baby is Born:

A recent rose bud announced the birth of **Elaina Rae to Mike and Sallie Garrison** on September 6. She joins her sister, **Audrey**, in the family. A dedication service for both children is planned for December 20 during the morning worship.

Pastor's Preaching Schedule:

J. D. Glick will be preaching on the following texts and themes during the Advent, Christmas and Epiphany seasons:

Dec. 6	“Missed Messages” Luke 1:57-80
Dec. 13	“The Blessing and Burden” Luke 1:26-45
Dec. 20	“Did God Forget an Important Detail in the Christmas Story?” Luke 2:1-7
Dec. 27	“Murder in the Manger” Matthew 2:13-23
Jan. 3	“Giants and Grasshoppers” Numbers 13:1-2, 17-20, 25-33
Jan. 10	“Strength from Weakness” 1 Corinthians 2:1-5
Jan. 17	“The Life of the Party” John 2:1-11
Jan. 24	“Hearing the Word of God” Nehemiah 8:1-10
Jan. 31	“Possessing Only Partial Vision” 1 Corinthians 13:11-13

Mini-Minutes of Congregational Business Meeting:

Heard the Treasurer's report regarding our giving and expenditures for the first ten and a half months of 2009.

Approved the 2010 Budget with anticipated expenditures of \$171,221. (There is **no** increase in salaries or outreach giving in the 2010 Budget. The Budget also shows a reduction of approximately \$10,000 below the current budget, made possible by reducing the payments on our building mortgage by \$1,000 a month.)

Called the following persons to leadership positions:

- Leadership Team Chair - Joe Ritchie
- Stewardship Ministry Team Chair - Curtis Joiner
- Worship and Education Ministry Team Chair - Darin Keith Bowman
- Clerk - Peggy Simpson
- Pastoral Relations Team Chair - Phil Stone, Sr.
- Gifts Discernment Team - Billy Fitzwater
- Annual Conference Delegate - Judy Phillippi
- District Conference Delegate - Cheryl Plank
- Deacons - Darin Keith Bowman, Terry Coffman, Charlotte French, Janet Lambert, Judy Phillippi, Peggy Simpson.

Heard reports of the Master Planning Process and from the Pastor.

Christmas Caroling:

The Chancel Choir invites others to join them in **caroling** to various members of the congregation on **Sunday, December 13**. All interested persons are invited to meet at the home of Ron and Karen Hedrick (154 Wildwood Drive, Bridgewater) at 3:00 P.M. (Call Hedricks at 828-0101 for directions to their house.) We will return to their home to share in a time of fellowship and food. Bring some finger food to share with the group.

Sign Board:

The next time you are at the church or driving by, notice the addition to our sign along Main Street. The new sign board allows us to post messages. Our Consultant in the Planning Process noted that we have a very visible location on a main city street and we need to do something to draw persons' attention. The sign board will be used to advertize our activities or post sayings and sermon titles. Thanks to Mike Simpson who constructed the board and supervised its installation.

1496 South Main Street
Harrisonburg, VA 22801



December '09 Bulletin Board:

In Memory:

The following three members of Sunrise Church have died in recent months:

Lertie “Lucky” Lam (January 10, 1926 — October 15, 2009) had joined Sunrise Church after many years of membership at the Flat Rock Church of the Brethren near Timberville, where he had served as Treasurer, Church Board chair, and Moderator. For many years he worked in the poultry industry, including as an Inspector. He had not gotten out much since his stroke in 2000. Lertie is survived by his wife, Delores, to whom he was married for almost 61 years.

Gene Masters (January 12, 1919 — November 7, 2009) had lived near his two sons in Maryland since 1999. He and Edith (who preceded him in death in 1984) had lived in northern Virginia where he operated a route for a laundry company. He loved to fish and work with wood and in retirement had volunteered at the Op Shop.

Shirley Dadisman died on November 9, 2009 in Maryland, where she had lived during her adult life. She had worked as a waitress and is remembered as the daughter of Thurston and Margaret Howdyshell. She is survived by her husband and a son.