



Lakeview NEWS

January 2010

Lakeview United Methodist Church

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HAPPY NEW YEAR



In The Pastors Corner

To Serve For All Eternity!

Hebrews 10:34, "You have a better and an enduring possession for yourselves in heaven."

The New Year is here! 2010 has begun and there are many new adventures for us to seek and do. For Leslie and me it has been a fast and awesome year and a half! Both St. Luke and Lakeview have richly blessed us in our soul. As the New Year begins my focus is on two important points that I believe God has put on my heart. That is family ministry and evangelism. I believe that these two need to be pursued to the highest of the high possible. What does that mean? To first seek Christ in prayer and meditation and then we act on it.

There have been ideas to reach out to families coming from family ministries committee. Some of those ideas are: dinner served on Wednesday and Sunday nights before Bible study and maybe a new contemporary worship service; a women's group; game night; a religious arts festival; and the list goes on. But there's a problem that this church faces which is to have people to watch over the nursery and children's church. This problem occurs on Sunday mornings and during bible study and any other worship service throughout the week. So what does that mean? That we need to provide a place of worship for the parents to leave their kids with the nursery and children's church.

As for evangelism there is a need to still reach people through certain events and worship services outside of our walls. One idea that has been brought to our attention is a contemporary service. This service would consist of the youth group from St. Luke Church performing music and leading service as well as members of Lakeview. Also, the service would consist of guest speakers and no bulletin!

(Continued on next page)

Brothers and sisters I am truly proud of our church and of your service to God. We have had an awesome year in 2009. From yard sales, combined communion, hosting a Lenten lunch for the community, serving supper to the fire department, family game nights, polar express movie night for the kids, and adult's night out. Also, serving thanksgiving dinner to the community, the awesome combined choir cantata, and many other events that took place this past year. Praise the Lord! Your service has not gone unnoticed. Christ sees it and so do others in this community of St. Albans. But I hate to say this there is always more we can do! I believe Christ is speaking to you to try new things at Lakeview United Methodist Church. So please don't be shy with it and don't keep it hidden inside. Let's try it and pursue it. If new things fail then so what! At least we gave it our best and Christ sees that and He will bless us for it. But, if Christ is behind the idea and we give Him Glory for it then it will succeed!

Billy Graham wrote this in his devotional book. "Some people think Heaven will be dull and boring, but nothing could be further from the truth. The Father's house will be a happy home because there will be work to do there. John wrote in Revelation 22:3, 'His servants shall serve Him.' Each one will be given exactly the task that suits their powers, their tastes, and their abilities." Do you have the power, taste, and ability to watch over God's children for parents to worship Christ? Do you have the power, taste, and ability to serve Christ in a new worship service? Do you have the power, taste, and ability to serve Christ in any new idea that you and others of this church will come up with? I leave you with two questions: WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DO HERE AT LAKEVIEW CHURCH? WHAT DO YOU WANT TO SEE HAPPEN? You are in charge of this church's destiny and God is waiting for you to come forward and serve. Amen!

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL

The meeting was called to order by Ron Colby, and Bill Casto opened the meeting with a devotion. Those present were Ron Colby, Franki Noble, Bud Newbrough, Jeff Ekstrom, Jason & Robin Black, Fred McKinney, Karen Kersey, Pastor Richie, Bill Casto and Don & Marilyn Morton. Motion (Bud/Don) to accept the December minutes as printed.

Nurture - The committee will meet January 25, 7 pm at the church.

Nurture will have an "after church social" on Sunday, February 14.

If requested to host one of the Wednesday lunches for Lent, for the joint church services, the committee agreed to handle this.

Treasurer's Report - Jeff reported that December was another fabulous month money wise. People caught up on their pledges and some extra money was received, and we paid our Apportionment for 2009 in full. We were able to put \$1000 toward our parsonage roof fund.

We collected \$80 at the Cantata and this will be forwarded to Christ's Kitchen. Treasurer's report was accepted as printed (Don/Fred).

Finance - As a point of interest the balance owed on our building note is \$44,301. We have \$12,000 in our Building Fund Money Market and with two years of payments plus this fund, we will be within a couple thousand dollars of paying off our loan.

Family Ministries - Family Ministries had their first meeting of the year, and eight ladies plus Richie shared their ideas,

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL –Cont'd

concerns and dreams about Lakeview and how we can nurture children plus the entire Lakeview family toward a closer relationship with God.

One starting program will be Bread & Company at 6 pm, Wednesdays, beginning in February (snack supper-which will be soup & bread). Dick Thompson & John Carr will spearhead this venture.

Another program will be a quarterly get together of the women of the church. Marilyn Morton will coordinate organizing this group. Potential meetings might include tea, an inspirational message, and include work on a craft or common project, etc.

There will be a game night February 20. Judy Belcher will handle this.

There will be a movie night. Janet Pennington will handle this.

A children's Christmas play/dinner is scheduled for the next Advent season. A religious Arts Festival is being explored, also an on-line book study. All of this brings to our attention that we are a diverse group, with different requirements, but all with the same desire – *to have our children and families have a spiritual connection.*

Outreach – A full bag of items was delivered to Sojourners at Christmastime. (items collected on the tree in the back of the sanctuary).

Plans are to start collecting items for Christ's Kitchen for *Souper Bowl* Sunday, February 7th.

An article has been submitted to the United Methodist monthly magazine regarding our Cantata, both churches joining together for the event.

Twenty one Christmas baskets were filled and delivered by Lakeview.

We will be looking for some other mission projects for our church in addition to the Salvation Army Bell Ringing, Hospice

"Love Light Tree" and Christmas baskets which Lakeview regularly does.

Parsonage – The dishwasher needed to be fixed. Jeff's Appliance has ordered the part to be installed next week.

Trustees – The trustees met Monday evening and assigned responsibility for a number of projects for 2010 (listed elsewhere in the newsletter).

Worship – The committee met prior to the Council meeting and outlined upcoming services.

Ash Wednesday Service, Feb. 17 – 7 pm at St. Luke

Palm Sunday Service, March 28, at Lakeview and St. Luke

Holy Thursday Service, 7 pm at Lakeview

Good Friday Service, 7 pm at St. Luke

Easter Sunrise Service by the lake, Easter Service at Lakeview & at St. Luke

The committee will be putting together devotionals for use during the Lenten season.

Pastor's Report - Pastor Richie stated that he feels excited about the great support that came from both churches for the Cantata and the impact that it made on our community.

Also, he was excited about the Family Ministries meeting that he attended and the ideas that originated in the meeting.

There is some concern regarding the staffing of the nursery and children's church, but first step will be to make calls and make sure we are staffed, and then if we need to – to seek outside staffing.

It was also noted that both of the churches (Lakeview & St. Luke) met their Apportionment 100% for 2009.

Miscellaneous -The Wellness Committee will have a Super Bowl sub sale on

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL –Cont'd

February 7th. Subs will be \$6 each and can be picked up after the worship service. The committee plans to use their money towards purchasing some lighter weight tables for the multi-purpose room.

The next Administrative Council meeting will be Tuesday, February 9, 2010, 7 pm.

The meeting was closed with prayer by Pastor Richie.

EXERCISE ROOM

Do not forget Lakeview's exercise room. Your membership is free. The above equipment is located under the sanctuary in the basement. Take a minute and check it out. Cool weather is coming and it is a good time to start yourself an exercise program. You can use it any hour of the day and at your own speed. We have some wonderful equipment, thanks to the nice donations by our members. We have the following:

- 1 – Schwinn Air Dyne stationary bicycle.
- 1 – DP Air Gometer stationary bicycle.
- 1 – Aerobic Rider Total Body exercise machine.
- 1 – Total Gym 1000.
- 1 – Flex CTS Cross Training Machine with stair climber.
- 1 – Mode 1 Treadmill.
- 1 – Weslo Cadence 955 Treadmill.
- 1 – AB Lounge2

We have a TV with VCR built in. You may bring a VCR tape and watch it while you work out. This sure makes the time seem like it goes by faster.

NOTES FROM THE UNKNOWN REPORTER

By the Grace of God, Lakeview, you did it! You were able to meet 100% of your Fair Share Giving to the WV Annual Conference for the year 2009!

By the Grace of God, Lakeview, you did it! You were able to provide Christmas Baskets to 21 needy families for 2009! Thank you to **Marilyn** and **Ron Colby** for heading this important effort.

By the Grace of God, Lakeview, you did it! You were able to provide socks, hats, scarves, and gloves and mittens to those who needed them at Sojourners Shelter, because of our Jesse Tree! Thank you, Outreach and **Robin Black**, for this ministry.

By the Grace of God, Lakeview and Saint Luke's Choirs, you did it! You provided the community with a Christmas Cantata, albeit a little late, at the Alban Arts and Conference Center. Special thanks to **Julie Simon** and **Donna Master** for their leadership.

By the Grace of God, Lakeview, you did it! You had a wonderful program for the children with a pajama party, Santa, cookie making, ornament making, and the Polar Express movie. Thanks to **Janet Pennington**, whose idea and effort made this a memorable evening for the children.

By the Grace of God, Lakeview, you did just what God calls us to do! You served your community, you served the hungry, you served the needy, you served the lonely, and you served the children. Thank you, Lord, for these opportunities.

Word came to us this new year about the death of a couple of Lakeview's former beloved members. They are: **Larkin Spence** and **Eloise Rooker**. Larkin served

NOTES FROM THE UNKNOWN REPORTER – Cont'd

as a Sunday School teacher and choir director while he was located in Saint Albans. He also used to take his vacation during the summer so that he was able to teach Bible School. Larkin died in Houston, Texas, on January 3, 2010. He leaves behind his wife, Betty, who was our organist while at Lakeview, and four children, Paul, Peter, Elaine and Ruth. Their eldest child, Andrew, died several years ago in a bicycle accident.

Another whose death was reported to me recently was Eloise Rooker who died in Florida. Eloise was a crafter par excellence, who served the church in many ways while she was here. It was her leadership that crafted our Chrismon tree that we proudly display in our sanctuary each year. George, her husband, had been a member of Lakeview's choir for many years. We thank God for these people who graced our presence for a time in their lives and enriched ours immeasurably while they were among us.

We ask for continued prayer for **Frances** and **Jim Paxton**, who are struggling with health issues.

We ask for prayer for **Gina Griffith** who recently chipped a bone in her ankle and is sporting a walking cast. Gina is Don Griffith's wife.

We ask for prayer for **Chris Noble** who is recovering from a back surgery. **Franki** could use a little, too! The Nobles have welcomed another granddaughter, **Chloe Grace**. Congratulations!

The Wellness Committee would like to thank those who provided cookies for the recent Cantata. They include **Linda Thompson, Linda Martin, Carol Davis,**

Marilyn Morton, Barbara Koontz and any others this reporter may have missed.

We congratulate **Brad Davis**, son of **Carol** and **Barry Davis**, who graduated from WVU in December with a B.S. degree in Journalism. As of this weekend, Brad will be living at home until he gets his career off the ground. We wish him well!

It was a pleasure to welcome back to the choir, **Mary Carr** and **Diane Cumberledge**. Both Mary and Diane have been fighting health issues for several months.

Though the weather has been cold and generally miserable, we indeed have warm homes and warm hearts, a loving church, and an abundance of God's blessings. That makes us rich, indeed! Happy New Year!

FINANCE CORNER

"We Are So Blessed"! Lakeview has had a very good year financially in 2009. We were able to pay all of our obligations on time and we paid 100% of our Fair Share to the Conference. Our congregation continues to honor our pledges to God and our church. Lakeview is a responsible, caring and reliable Christian Community.

Bud Newbrough
Chairperson of Finance
Finance Committee

BUILDING FUND INFORMATION

The people of Lakeview are humbled by the way in which they have handled the planning, the construction and the financing of the church renovation completed in 2001. At that time, we began a project that would cost approximately \$250,000. We pay \$1,260.00 each month to the bank on the loan for the

BUILDING FUND INFORMATION – CONT'D

renovation. The following is a summary for 2010.

Balance Owed on our Building Note	\$44,301.00
Money in Our Bldg Fund Money Mkt	<u>\$12,000.00</u>
Balance Owed	\$32,301.00

Two years Payments at \$1,260.00 per month =
\$30,240.00

Balance on Note after two years = \$2,061.00
Interest Rate on our Loan is 3.5%

Thank you, Lakeview, for remaining faithful to this commitment with God's help.

SUPER BOWL SUNDAY SUB SALE

The Wellness Committee will be holding a Super Bowl Sunday Sub Sandwich Sale. The monies raised from this project will be used to start a fund for new tables for the church. Many of our tables are no longer stable after long years of use and indeed there are times when we don't have enough of them to serve our needs. Now is your chance to help the Wellness Committee reach its goal! Sign up for a sandwich and a bag of chips to be picked up after church on Sunday, February 7, 2010. Each sandwich will be \$6.00. For the first time we will be asking you to provide your own condiment for the sandwiches. The Committee thanks you in advance for your support.

January and February Birthdays

GREG BELCHER	1/16
WALTER SAYRE	1/17
JOHN HUMPHREYS	1/17
WAYNE KERSEY	1/21
JANET PENNINGTON	1/25
EVAN ROWE	1/26
TANNER EKSTROM	1/28
JIM ROSE	2/2
BOBBY IDDINGS	2/4
ELIJAH GOODWIN	2/6
PEGGY MCMILLAN	2/7

KAREN WILSON	2/13
MARY FERGUSON	2/23
BILL CASTO	2/28

January and February Anniversaries

FERGUSON	2/2
EKSTROM	2/16
MCKINNEY	2/21
CARR	2/23

If your birthday or anniversary is missing, please send an email to Donald.paul.wilson@verizon.net and I will add you to the list.

OUTREACH AT LAKEVIEW UMC

January has started and we start our annual missions in the Church. First thanks to everyone who donated items for the Jesse Tree at Christmas time. Those Items have been taken to Sojourner's shelter in Charleston. Thanks to all the families who participated in this year's Christmas Baskets. The need was there and Lakeview stepped up to the plate to help out.

The Cantata with St. Luke was the perfect outreach to the community of St. Albans. I was glad to see the number of people who attended with very little advertising. I just wonder if it had not snowed how many people we would have had with all the advertising out there regarding the event. I was touched by God's love that day with the songs, solos, and the youth.

February 7, 2010 is the NFL's Super Bowl 44.....we will be celebrating Souper Bowl Sunday collecting non perishable food items to be taken to Christ's Kitchen here in St. Albans.

We are looking to doing our regular outreaches (Kid's Kits, Christmas Baskets, manning the Hospice Table & Ringing the bells for the Salvation Army and Jesse Tree) with some new one's thrown in here and there.

OUTREACH Cont'd

Remember there are items for the Kid Kits in the back of the church behind the Clipboard Board.

As Pastor Richie said in his sermon, numbers are good but bringing the unchurched to Christ is better.

So it is time to go outside these walls and start doing our part for the Great Commission to be disciples for Christ. So be on the lookout for upcoming outreach programs to get involved in.

DVD's of services are being produced. They are available the next Sunday unless requested. They are in a box on the back table with date dividers. If you know of someone who cannot get out to church and has a DVD player or Computer. Feel free to take one and return it when you are finished with it. We started the DVD's with the Sunday before Thanksgiving and on that DVD is the Thanksgiving service before the Community Dinner.

Reminder if you have a clipboard to put in the back of the church please let me know so that I can bring attention to it.

As part of the Lenten season we will be collecting **Lenten Devotions** again. We are asking for original devotions this year. We will be putting together and electronic devotion and those without computers please let me know so that we know to print you off a book. If there is a specific day you would like please put that in your email as well. There will also be something for the families to do in Lent as well attached to the book. Please email those to me at JBlack1979@aol.com and I will let you know that I have received it. Sometimes different emails systems do not talk to each other well. Deadline will be February 11th to have them to me. If you don't have email, feel free to print it and hand it to me and I will retype it.

Robin Black - Chair



Pictures from the recent(?) past. Who are these folks?

TRUSTEES

Trustees met on Jan. 11, 2010 and assigned coordinators for the various responsibilities and duties that the trustees have at Lakeview Church. The following assignments were made: Electrical, Heating and Cooling – Jim Rose / Fred McKinney; Lawn and landscape maintenance – Dave Koontz / Humphreys; Lockup schedule for 2010 – Karen Wilson; Maintenance of the parsonage – Dave Ashley; Ice, snow and leaf removal – Dave Koontz / Dick Thompson; Maintenance of roofs – Bill Casto; Painting – Fred McKinney.

If you have a concern or a problem in any of these areas, please contact the coordinator or the chairperson of the trustees. Trustees assigned coordinators for the church improvement projects planned for this year: 1. Church Spring Cleanup Day - coordinator – Fred McKinney; 2. Install new roof on parsonage - coordinator – Casto / Koontz; 3. Trim or remove trees in the front lawn of the parsonage - coordinator – Dave Ashley; 4. Reroute surface water drain in church parking lot -coordinators – Bill Casto / Dave Koontz. Coordinators may be contacting you for your help with these projects.

Thanks, Fred McKinney, Chairperson, Trustees