



ASHLAND UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

A STEPHEN MINISTRY CONGREGATION

Joining Together on a Christian Journey of Love and Service **February**

2600 Ashland Rd
Columbia, SC 29210
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Joel R. Jones, Pastor
Pastor@ashlandumc.com
www.ashlandumc.com

Office Hours: M-F 9AM
Mon, Tue, Thu- 3pm
Wed- 5pm, Fri-Noon

Worship services: *The Path*: 8:45AM Traditional: 11:00AM Sunday School: 9:45AM

What good is it to me if this birth of the divine Son takes place unceasingly but does not take place within myself? What good is it to me for the Creator to give birth to his Son if I do not also give birth to him in my time and my culture? This then, is the fullness of time: when the Son of God is begotten in us.

Meister Eckhart – Medieval mystic and Christian Theologian

Apollo 9 astronaut Rusty Schweickart's life was changed by his experience of looking down at the Earth from outer space.

He noted: "You go around the earth every 90 minutes. Then you begin to recognize that your identity is with that whole globe, not just one part of it. As you look down you can't imagine how many borders and boundaries you cross - again and again.

Still, you know there are thousands of people fighting over some imaginary lines down there that you can't even see, and you wish you could say, 'Hey, look at that! What's important?'"

What is important? Is it the many duties, the chores and errands and assignments that fill our days with low-level noise? Or is it those moments of rich calm – times of being still and knowing that God is at work in our lives?

Theologian Meister Eckhart once wrote: *"Each person has a vintage wine cellar but they seldom drink from it."*

A schoolteacher received numerous gifts from his students each year at Christmas. After awhile, he got pretty savvy about what the gifts were. There would be a thin handkerchief box, so he knew it was a handkerchief box. Instead of opening it, he put it in the closet and when he needed a handkerchief, went in, got it and opened it up.

One time he needed a handkerchief, so he went into the closet, opened up a thin handkerchief box but there was no handkerchief inside. Inside instead was an antique pocket watch.

"Wow! I had an antique pocket watch all this time but I didn't know it because it was wrapped in a handkerchief box."

Astronaut Rusty Schweickert, Meister Eckhart and the teacher grasped a concept that would serve us all well as we realize the greatness and hidden potential that lies within each one of us. As God's children, there is greatness and potential in us all, and it often defies the circumstances in our lives.

""We carry the treasure in earthen vessels." St. Paul

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Don Kirkindoll
Music@ashlandumc.com
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Martha Eastburn
Pianist

Living Out Our Faith

February 17, 2008 By

"I will be loyal to The United Methodist Church and uphold it with my PRAYERS, my PRESENCE, my GIFTS, and my SERVICE."

OUR PRAYERS

Freda Reid – Lexington Medical Center
Linda O'Neal – Palmetto Baptist Hospital
Vesta Amaker, mother of Cynthia Busbee
Rose Hammond, sister of Cynthia Busbee
Kristie Frampton Grant of Rock Hill - daughter of Olivia Wendt
Doris Sarvis, mother of Vicki Proctor
In memoriam Margaret Ann Montgomery Credille, mother of Mac Credille, died February 6, 2008. Graveside service was held on February 9, 2008.

OUR PRESENCE

Worship – 337 Sunday School – 234

OUR GIFTS

Received Week Ending	2/9/08	\$13,483
Received Year to Date		63,878
Spent Year to Date		88,770

General Fund Contributions

Received Week Ending	2/9/08	12,627
Received Year to Date		60,359

Special Offerings

Memorials/Honorarium	315
Driveway Project Total to Date:	25,785

OUR SERVICE

Crucifer: Matthew A.
Acolytes: Kyle C., Daniel A.
Lay Reader: Susan Dickinson
Altar Stewards: Rosemary Sanders, Susan Dickinson
Ushers for February: Ben Dusenbury, Billy Laney, Ed Hammond,
Nina Newcomb, Samuel D., Bud Graczyk
Narthex Table for February: Valerie & Paige Railey
Greeters – *The Path*: Linda Abernathy
Greeters: Sunday School and Worship:
Bob & Kim Crutchfield; Kinsey & Doreen Jenkins
Sound: Ladd Harrelson
Nursery:
The Path – Dawn Mixon; Jack & Kiley Cohoon
Infants: Joanne Turner
Crawlers: Carol Gasque & Evelyn Kirby
Toddlers: Casey Allen & Kathy Weeks
Preschoolers: Toni Little; Dawn & Aaron Compton
Children's Church: Robert & Linda Motley
Sunday School Coffee for February: Searchers Class

Flowers: The altar flowers are to the glory of God in celebration of Christian friendship by Jane Westbury.

Hymns & Scriptures

<i>To God Be the Glory</i>	UMH No. 98
<i>Lift High the Cross</i>	UMH No. 159
Psalm 121	UMH No. 844
Genesis 12:1-4a	
John 3:1-17	

Missionaries We Support

Fred & Stacy Vanderwerf

(postal mail) a/c 7998, Lviv – 8, Ukraine 79008
(email) werfsagain@hotmail.com

Tim & Daina Datwyler

(postal mail) c/o The Mission Society, P.O. Box 922637,
Norcross, GA 30010
(email) datfam4ecuador@gmail.com

Adam & Jennifer Dalenburg

www.themissionsociety.org/missionaries/dalenburg

Family Ministries

Wednesday Night Supper

Olive Garden spaghetti, salad & bread sticks
Cost is \$5 (18 years old & up) \$3 (10-17 years old)
Free for children (9 years old & under)

Red reservation slips are on the information table in Ashland Hall for *The Path*. Red slips are in the pew pockets in the sanctuary for the 11:00 am service.

Birthdays (February 17-23):

17	Wes Busbee, Bob Graczyk, Jon O., Bill S., Kris T.
18	Seth C., Skylar C., Dennis W., Danny W.
19	Karen C., Dale Robbins, Michael R.
20	Lindsey A., Dianne Berryman, Drew F., Cassie T.
21	Franklin C.
22	Patrick F., Lorraine S.
23	Linda C., Tom M.

Honorarium:

Bob & Barbara Borom's 40th Wedding Anniversary by Jim & Sue Phelps, Carol Phelps, Don & Mary Ann Bleyle

Memorials:

To the Jeannie McCrea Scholarship Fund for Jason Jones by Dale & Ruthanne Robbins, Pat & Patsy Towery, David & Linda Abernathy

To the Jeannie McCrea Scholarship Fund for Lawrence Pitts by Pat & Patsy Towery

To the Jeannie McCrea Scholarship Fund for Kinsey Jenkins, Sr. by Pat & Patsy Towery

Jason Jones by Martha Eastburn, Mac & Jean Smurthwaite, Jim & Mary Nell Wilson, Peggy Smith

Kinsey Jenkins, Sr. by David & Linda Abernathy, Peggy Smith

Lawrence Pitts by Jim & Mary Nell Wilson

Laura Inabnit, Bill Bryan's aunt, by Bob & Mylla Markland

Lenten Gospel Lessons Offer Close Encounters

Feb 3: Jesus and the Tempter

Feb. 10: Jesus and Nicodemus

Feb. 17: Jesus and the woman at the well

Feb. 24: Jesus and the man born blind

March 2: Jesus and Lazarus

As the Worship page on the General Bd. of Discipleship puts it:
"These are also encounters with our searching, thirst, blindness and death."

Ashland Men's Basketball Team Update

The Ashland Men's Basketball team has won 7 in a row including a 3 point win the other night over Our Lady of the Hills. We are 7-1 with 2 games left in the regular season.

Welcome New Member

We welcome Jennifer Marlowe to Ashland by profession of faith. Jennifer is a USC law school graduate, and is the parent of Madeline who was baptized last Sunday. Jennifer will take the bar exam next February. She works at Flextronics (formerly Solectron) in West Columbia and was invited to Ashland by member Jerry Little.

MISSIONS/ Miscellaneous

Fill the Baskets w/Food & Bath Items

Thank you for your generosity of food items for Sharing God's Love and bath items for Palmetto Aids. As you enter worship at 8:45 am and 11:00 am, baskets are available at the back for you to place canned food and bath items. These items will be dedicated during the offering.

Flower Calendar

There are dates available to put flowers in the church in honor or in memory of someone. Please note by your name if you will be taking the flowers with you or if the flowers can be taken to someone that is sick.

PUTTING CHANGE IN YOUR LENTEN BOXES

What do the following communities in Wisconsin have in common? Prairie du Chien, Milwaukee, Ladysmith, Adams County, Siren, Randolph, Fond du Lac, Richland County, Stoughton, Viola.

Answer: Since 1998, persons in these communities have been assisted with funds from the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) in rebuilding their lives following the devastation of natural forces...wind, hail, floods and fire.

By saving your loose change this Lent and placing it in the Lenten box and bringing it to church on Easter, this helps UMCOR provide hands-on care for persons caught in the effects of storms, war, disaster and disease. Often UMCOR is the first to arrive on the scene and the last to leave.

VIPs

The VIP (50+) group will meet at Lizard's Thicket at 6 pm on Friday, February 29th for dinner. Following dinner, the group will attend the Dick Goodwin Big Band Concert at Union UMC at 7:30 pm. Everyone is welcome.

Treading Lightly on Creation

-Replace regular bulbs with an energy saving compact fluorescent bulb.

-Save energy by checking furnace filter once a month and change when needed.

FEEDING THE HOMELESS

We are grateful to these Sunday School classes who will be preparing and serving meals at the Columbia Homeless Shelter from February 25-March 1: Searchers, Good News, Stepping Stones, Cornerstone, New Beginnings, and Friendship.

UMF

Bible Study, Room 111 ~ Wednesdays 6:30-7:30pm

February

17th - 4:30pm - Ashland Lights

5:30pm - UMYF

Feb 22-24 - Please sign up for **Lifted Ski Retreat** -. Cost is \$126.00 plus \$87.00 for ski pass/equipment. We will leave Friday evening for Lake Junaluska, ski Saturday at Catalooche, and return home Sunday around 4pm.

March - "The Ultimate Gift"

2nd - 4:30pm - Ashland Lights

5:30pm - UMYF "Gift #1 & #2" - Work and Money

9th - 4:30pm - Ashland Lights

5:15pm - UMYF

16th - 4:30pm - Ashland Lights

5:30pm - UMYF "Gift #3 & #4" - Family and Friends

THANK YOU!!

Thank you to everyone for supporting our youth. Because of you, the youth collected \$495 during the Souper Bowl of Caring. The money will be sent to HOMEWORKS to aid in the repair of homes. Thank you for a fun Shrove Tuesday as well! The youth made \$480 to be used in retreats and work projects.

Marriage Enrichment Seminar

Mt. Horeb UMC

Saturday, March 1st; 9 am-3 pm

1205 Old Cherokee Rd., Lexington, SC

Tickets: \$21 per person



United Methodist Women

SPEAKING WITH ONE VOICE FOR CHILDREN A SC UMW Conference Legislative Event

Monday, March 3, 2008 in Ashland Hall - 9:30-2:30

Registration forms in Church Office - Register by Feb. 25 at \$20 per person which includes lunch.

Open to men and women who are concerned about children's issues.

The Body at Prayer UMW Interest Group will meet Wednesday February 20th at 5PM in the Searcher's Sunday School Class Room. Please come and join in this hour to share the many prayer movements that can enhance our prayer life.

Mark your calendars for Saturday morning, April 12th for our **Annual Mission Work Day** in Ashland Hall. Watch for more information.

EASTER LILIES ORDER FORM

Each lily will cost \$11.50. Payment must accompany order. Please make check payable to Ashland UMC and note "Easter Lilies" on the check. Plants may be picked up after the 11 a.m. service on Easter Sunday. Deadline for orders is Sunday, March 9th. Please print. Thank you.

_____ No. of Lilies

_____ In Memory

_____ In Honor



United Methodist Men Men on a Mission

The UMM is requesting that winter coats (men, women and children) be donated and dropped off in the Stepping Stones class this Sunday. These will be donated to a local homeless shelter.

If you need assistance with minor "around the house" projects, please call or e-mail office@ashlandumc.com the church office.

*Mark your calendar for the annual Columbia District UMM Fish Fry on Monday, February 25th, 6 pm at Rehoboth UMC.

EDUCATION

Book Club

Join us this Sunday February 16th at 4pm in room 111 to discuss "On Chesil Beach" by Ian McEwan (Drama of apprehensive newlyweds set in wedding suite on Dorset Coast) In March we will be reading:

"Nineteen Minutes" by Jodi Picoult (Thriller about a high school shooting by an alienated teen)

Confirmation Class

The sixth grade Confirmation Class will go to the Thompson funeral home Sunday, March 2nd 3:30pm-5:30pm and will attend a retreat at Asbury Hills March 7-9th.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday, February 17, 2008 – Matthew 7:24-29

8:45 AM *The Path*, Ashland Hall
9:45 AM Sunday School for All Ages
11:00 AM Traditional Service, Sanctuary
4:00 PM Book Club, #111
4:30 PM Ashland Lights
5:30 PM UMYF
5:30 PM Disciple I, #115

Monday, February 18, 2008 – Matthew 9:9-13

6:30 PM Disciple IV, #115
6:00 PM Evangelism, #138
6:30 PM Men's BB, Ashland vs. First Church of the Nazarene #2
CrossRoads Middle School
7:30 PM No Girl Scouts, #108

Tuesday, February 19, 2008 – Matthew 9:35-38

9:00 AM Shepherd's Center of St. Andrews
6:30 PM Stephen Ministry Class, #119

Wednesday, February 20, 2008 – Matthew 10:40-42

6:00 PM Wednesday Night Supper
6:00 PM AI Anon, #127
6:30 PM Ties that Bind, #119
6:30 PM Lenten Study, Ashland Hall
6:30 PM Rainbow Kids, #125
6:30 PM Wednesday's Angels, #123
7:30 PM Sign Language, #129
Worship Choir, Choir Room

Thursday, February 21, 2008 – Matthew 11:25-27

10:30 AM Ladies Prayer Group, #119
7:00 PM Chess Club, #125
7:30 PM Arpad Darzas Singers Practice, Choir Room

Friday, February 22, 2008 – Matthew 11:28-30

Saturday, February 23, 2008 – Matthew 12:1-14

Sunday, February 24, 2008 – Matthew 12:31-32

8:45 AM *The Path*, Ashland Hall
9:45 AM Sunday School for All Ages
11:00 AM Traditional Service, Sanctuary
5:30 PM Disciple I, #115

Devotions are from "The Sanctuary for Lent 2008"

The complete church calendar can be found on the church's website www.ashlandumc.com

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

**Ashland United Methodist Church
2600 Ashland Rd
Columbia, SC 29210**

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