

The Corinthian

"Good News is for Sharing"



Published Weekly

January 16, 2008

Volume 10, Issue No. 3

Congregational Meeting January 20, following the 11:00 Services

The congregation of Corinth Reformed Church will meet Sunday, January 20, following the 11:00 services, to vote on a proposal to proceed with construction plans on a new multi-purpose building. Nursery and children's church will be extended for this meeting, but the children will not be provided lunch.

Active members of Corinth will be asked to approve the following four proposals from the Consistory:

- Approve the \$6.48 million phased alternative construction recommendation of the Building Committee.
- Authorize the Building Committee to finish this design with architect, engineers and others.
- Authorize the Building Committee to enter into contracts and other arrangements needed to complete the construction of the project within the limitations above, including an agreement with a General Contractor and the purchase of all items and services to be included with the building. Any construction loan or mortgage that exceeds our existing \$750,000 line of credit shall require advance approval of the Consistory and, having received this approval, shall be executed by the Executive Committee as Trustees of Corinth Reformed Church.
- Authorize the Building Committee to manage the construction project and to provide monthly progress reports to the Executive Committee and Consistory.

Please note that the wording of the third bullet has been changed by vote of the Consistory since the mailing dated January 9, 2008.



CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Souper Bowl Sunday



Souper Bowl Sunday Only 20 Days To Go

Caring Christians all over Catawba County are preparing for Souper Bowl Sunday on February 3. This annual event is a major community effort to collect monies which are used to address hunger in our community occurring on a daily basis. Why is this Sunday so important? In North Carolina we have 338,000 children living in poverty. Did you know, North Carolina has 259,000 food insecure households and 76,000 hungry households? The city of Hickory has 11.3% of its citizens who live at or below the poverty level. Food insecurity is defined as the inability to provide nutritionally adequate and safe foods on a daily basis. Hunger is actual physical pain sensations caused by a lack of food. Paul stated in Romans 12:13 "Share with God's people who are in need. Practice hospitality".

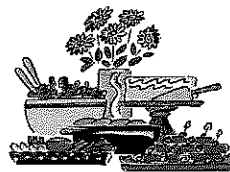
We care about all of our brothers and sisters in our community. Hunger should be a choice not a reality. Don't forget February 3 team work makes the difference.

Support Groups Information

- Single Parenting - Last Wednesday of the month at 6:15 pm Beginning on January 30. Meets in the classroom before the Althouse Room on the left.
- DivorceCare - Beginning February 2, 10:00 am - 12:00 noon in the Moss Room.
- GriefShare - Beginning February 13.

Annual New Members Potluck

All members are invited to enjoy a potluck lunch after the 11:00 service in the Fellowship Hall. We will celebrate all new members who joined this Sunday, January 27 and in 2007.



Potluck

Everyone is asked to bring a side dish and/or dessert (label dish with what is in it and your name) to share with everyone. Meats, rolls and drinks are provided by the church. Bring dishes to the Fellowship Hall and someone will be there to receive the dishes before the Sunday School and 11:00 service.

GriefShare

GriefShare, a grief recovery video seminar and support group, will be held at here at Corinth starting on February 13. The meeting will be held on Wednesdays from 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm in the Althouse Room.

The series is composed of 13 weekly sessions, each self-contained so participants may begin attending at any time. For more information call Betty McGee, R.N., Parish Nurse, at 828.328.6196, ext 204, or email at betty@corinthtoday.org.

Operation Sweet Treat

The Girl Scout Council of the Catawba Valley Area, Inc. is proud to sponsor a council-wide service project Operation Sweet Treat. This will be the council's second year sponsoring the program and our goal is to collect 12,000 boxes of cookies for Give2theTroops, Inc. that will be placed in care packages and shipped to our soldiers overseas. Corinth is host to a Brownie and Daisy troop participating in this event. If you would like to send our troops a box of cookies, please contact Nancy Bledsoe (Brownies) bledsoen@hotmail.com or Rachel Gee (Daisies) rgeebunch@aol.com. We will announce the total number of boxes Corinth sends to our servicemen and women during the worship services on March 9.



Attendance

January 13, 2008
 Worship services - 609
 Sunday School - 219



Worship with Us

Looking Forward to Worship

Jesus asks a strange question in John 5:6 of a man who had been an invalid for thirty-eight years: "Do you want to get well?" Was the question only rhetorical? The pastors will be discussing this passage (John 5:1-15) in worship services on Sunday.

Following the 11:00 services, the church will vote on the proposal from the Building Committee and Consistory in a called business meeting.

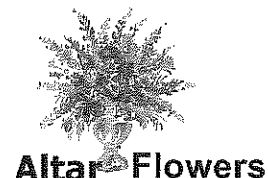
Financial Update

- Offering this week: \$12,379
- Budget needs YTD: \$41,683 (41%)
- Offering YTD: \$49,146 (48%)
- Needed by 1/31/2008 to stay current: \$35,379
- Building Fund this week: \$4,005



Altar Flowers Open Dates

The following dates are still available for Altar Flowers. February 3, February 17, March 9, April 27, June 1, June 22, July 13, August 13, September 21, September 28, and October 19.



If you would like any of the above dates please contact Martha Karslake 322.7341 or email karslake@charter.net.

Week of January 20

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|--------------------------|--|
| <i>Sunday, Jan 20</i> | Traditional Worship, 8:30 am (Sanctuary)
Sunday School, 9:45 am
Traditional Worship, 11:00 am (Sanctuary)
Contemporary Service, 11:00 am (Fellowship Hall)
Called Congregational Meeting, 12:30 pm
*Alcoholics Anonymous, 8:00 pm |
| <i>Monday, Jan 21</i> | Althouse/Field Circle, 10:30 am
Boys Scouts, 7:00 pm |
| <i>Tuesday, Jan 22</i> | Men's Bible Study, 6:30 am
Prayer Group, 2:00 pm
Spiritual Council, 7:00 pm |
| <i>Wednesday, Jan 23</i> | Men's Bible Study, 7:00 am
Bible Study and Prayer, 11:00 am
Spiritual Stretchers, 9:45 am
Jr. High Choir, 4:15 pm
Children's Choir, 5:00 pm
Confirmation Class, 5:00 pm
Fellowship Meal, 5:30 pm
Women's Bible Study, 6:15 pm
Men's Bible Study, 6:15 pm
Kids' Club, Handbell Choir, 6:15 pm
Characters of the Bible, 6:15 pm
Jr. & Sr. High Youth CREW, 6:30 pm
Stephen Ministry, 6:30 pm
Chancel Choir, 7:00 pm
College Girls Bible Study, 9:00 pm |
| <i>Thursday, Jan 24</i> | Men's Bible Study, 8:00 am
Women's Bible Study, 9:30 am
Hearts of Lydia Circle, 11:30 am |
| <i>Friday, Jan 25</i> | Brownies, 4:00 pm |

*Non-Corinth - sponsored events.

Pastors' Prayer List

Current Items for Praise and Prayer

- Trisha and Don Harris are grateful that the results of a scan done on Thursday did not reveal any cancer in the brain or arm. Trisha's health remains fragile as she continues chemo treatments.
- Chuck and Kelly Heavner ask prayer as they prepare for the birth of their third child by caesarean section January 31 at Catawba Valley Medical Center.
- Steven Dulin, 18, was able to come home Thursday, January 10, after a few days Carolinas Medical Center for another round of chemotherapy. He will re-enter the hospital today for his next treatment.
- Wells Walker requests prayer for his son, Clayton, who was involved in a serious car accident Wednesday, January 9. He is being treated in the Chapel Hill Burn Center.
- Paul and Linda Schowalter ask prayer for their dear friends, Joan and Benny Martens, of Homestead, FL. Joan has been battling ovarian cancer for years.



God Hears and Answers Prayers

Special Ministries Person of the Week: Wayburn Clontz, 1265 21st St., NE, Hky, NC 28601

Military Person of the Week: John Reeves, Army National Guard

Student of the Week: Catherine Allran, Sophomore, University of South Carolina, e-mail: allran@mailbox.sc.edu

Benevolence of the Week: Lancaster Theological Seminary, 555 West James Street, Lancaster, PA, 17603,

Contact person: Claude Dencler, VP for Development, e-mail cdencler@lts.org

Families of the Week: Leroy & Henrietta Abernathy; Cindy Abernethy; Claude Abernethy; David & Sharon Abernethy (John, Laura, Robert); Jane Abernethy; Lois Abernethy; Ruth Abernethy; Tom & Celeste Abernethy (Thomas & Tyler); Doug Adams; Harold & Claire Adams; Jeff & Leslie Addison (Maegan & Matthew); Jimmy Aderholdt; Brad & Kimberly Adkins (Gabriel & Talyn); Don Albright; Bill & Kelly Aldridge; Simon & Ptolemy Allport (Caroline, William, Elizabeth)

Share the Joy

What blessings have come to you or a member of the Corinth family? If you have something to share for this column please contact the church office 328.6196, ext 201 or 203 or email office@corinthtoday.org.

Ash Wednesday Service

The penitential season of Lent is just around the corner. Wednesday, February 6, 6:30 pm, we will gather as a church family in the sanctuary for our Ash Wednesday service to begin Lent. "Lent" comes from the same root as "lengthen," and literally refers to springtime, when the days get longer. For many centuries, however, the season of Lent has represented the forty days (not including Sundays) leading up to Easter. It is a time of sorrow for sin, of intensified spiritual disciplines, and of preparation to remember our Lord's death and resurrection.

Please join us for the Ash Wednesday service. We will include the imposition of ashes, for those who choose to receive them on the forehead as a symbol of our mortality and repentance. We will also share in the sacrament of Holy Communion.



Great Characters of the Bible

This class is taking additional enrollment for its winter session. They meet on Wednesdays, 6:15 pm in the Zwingli Room, the first room on the right going toward the Althouse Room. This is an in-depth study of characters in the Bible that teach us how God used ordinary people to accomplish extraordinary tasks throughout Biblical history.

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Pastor's Pen *Faithful and Welcoming* *Update*

You haven't heard much lately in this space (or any other) about Faithful and Welcoming Churches (FWC) of the UCC, for several reasons. First, I have been busy with Corinth's Capital Campaign. So, second, not as much has been happening with FWC. And, third, I thought we all needed to give denominational issues a rest.

FWC is back on my plate, so to speak, and usually I write in this space about what's on my mind. The reason FWC has moved to the forefront of my consciousness again is that our annual board meeting is this week. On the day most of you receive *The Corinthian* in the mail (Thursday), Linda and I will be headed to Woodstock, Virginia, for three days of board meetings. We will be back Saturday evening and will be at Corinth on Sunday, Lord willing.

Just to review for those of you who may not know or may have forgotten, Faithful and Welcoming Churches was created two years to encourage churches, pastors, and individuals who consider themselves ECOT (evangelical, conservative, orthodox, or traditional) to stay in the United Church of Christ. Although we are a minority in the UCC, we believe

the denomination needs us. I serve as President of FWC, and Linda is on the Board of Directors.

I am pleased with our progress in 2007. We were a visible presence at the UCC's General Synod in Hartford, Connecticut in July. In fact, the synod passed our resolution overwhelmingly. Details are on our web site, www.faithfulandwelcoming.org. We had a good year financially, with a total income of \$21,968, including \$19,094 from dozens of different UCC churches. Expenses were about \$4,000 below income.

As we look to 2008, we are planning a national gathering for FWC July 10-12 in Cleveland, Ohio, at the national headquarters of the UCC. John Thomas, UCC President, has agreed to be with us, and we also anticipate meeting with many other UCC leaders face to face to share our concerns and hear theirs. We pray that this gathering will be a productive step forward.

If you would like to periodic receive updates on matters related to the UCC or FWC, please e-mail me at bob@corinthtoday.org or call the church office, 328.6196. I will send out a post-board update next week via e-mail (or U.S. mail for those not online), but only to those who request it.

- Bob Thompson, Pastor