



# ASHLAND UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

## A STEPHEN MINISTRY CONGREGATION

*Joining Together on a Christian Journey of Love and Service* February 1, 2009

2600 Ashland Rd  
Columbia, SC 29210  
Telephone: 798-5350; Fax 798-6057

**The Reverend Joel R. Jones, Pastor**

[Pastor@ashlandumc.com](mailto:Pastor@ashlandumc.com)

Phone Ext. 15

[www.ashlandumc.com](http://www.ashlandumc.com)

Office Hours: Mon., Tues. Thurs. 9-3

Wed.-5 pm; Fri.-Noon

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

### **An Epiphany Message in the Midst of Economic Uncertainty and Winter**

(The following message by our D. S. Tim McClendon, appeared in the January 2009 Columbia District Newsletter)

A couple of years ago I was in Portland, Oregon on General Church business. The rose gardens were lovely, and the Willamette River was spectacular. The fish was the best that I had ever eaten, and my first taste of Marionberries was simply addictive. I scanned the wonders of the Pacific Northwest lying before me. There was Mt. Hood seemingly within a hands reach and the history-making volcano, Mt. St. Helens, seemed almost as close. It was breathtaking!

It was almost too good to be true, and it was. As I gloried in the wonderful weather for a week, basking in cool clean air filled with daily sunshine, the truth of Portland's year-round climate was revealed by a native-Portlander who was attending the same meeting. He told me that Portlanders would be socked in within a few weeks for at least 5 months of fog and drizzle. The rain mixed with the fertile ash of nearby volcanoes were great for the roses and hazelnuts, which made for 7 months of pure sun-drenched delight. Unfortunately, to enjoy the benefits for 7 months, one had to endure the almost interminable 5 months of drizzle.

He said people became easily depressed. As big as Mt. Hood is to Portland's skyline, during the dreary months you simply can't see it. People stay indoors and quit socializing. The independent self-sufficiency of these Westerners makes it all too easy for folks to become even more isolated. He said church attendance takes a nosedive during the gloomy months.

But this is just when we really need the church, isn't it? This is why we have an Epiphany Season after all. Easter is one of those events that Christians can actually pin to history with Jesus' death and resurrection being tied to the Jewish Passover. But, Christmas and Epiphany are another matter. We really have no idea what time of year it was that Jesus was born. There is no real evidence in the Scriptures. It took several hundred years for Christmas to catch on and everyone's best guess for the selection of December 25 and January 6 to comprise the Twelve Days of Christmas has all to do with winter and less to do with facts.

It's the same principle that should be at work in Portland. Instead of less people in church during the rainy season, there should be more especially as we face the economic uncertainty before us. Christmas and Epiphany come as they do because they follow on the heels of December 22, the Winter Equinox. As winter begins, at least for the Northern Hemisphere, we experience the shortest day of the year and the longest night. The very next day the length of daylight increases a little less than a minute and on it goes until June 21, the beginning of summer when the tide turns and daylight starts decreasing. The Twelve Days of Christmas from December 25-January 6 were just enough time for ancient humanity to verify their hope that bleak midwinter was indeed someday going to end.

No wonder, then, these dates were chosen for the celebration of Jesus' birth and his miracles, an Epiphany of light to a dark world. This celebration comes precisely when we need it most! Mt. Hood and all the other mountains that surround Portland are just as present during the dreary months when they can't be seen as they are when they can. Epiphany season in the church pushes back the fog and drizzle of winter and lets us catch a needed glimpse of Sonshine until that day when Jesus will be revealed in all His glory! I hope we can have faith to believe even when we cannot see.

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**Don Kirkindoll**  
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**Robert Neese**  
*Organist*

**Martha Eastburn**  
*Pianist*

# Living Out Our Faith

February 1, 2009 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

Ruby Muckenfuss – aunt of Doreen Jenkins, Ascension  
David Gramling – Deployed  
William Burnett – Deployed to Ft. Wainwright, Alaska  
Robin Price – daughter of Buddy & Linda Roberts  
Melinda Bean – daughter of Pat & Barbara Murphy  
Susan Bowers – Home from the hospital. Please no visitors for a few days.

Zack McCutchen, who entered basic training this week at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas  
Anne Morse and Wiggie Jones, on the recent death of Evelyn Linder, Anne's mother and Wiggie's sister. Services were held on January 27, 2009

Frank Myers – Lexington Medical Center

## OUR PRESENCE

Worship: 358 The Path: 128 Traditional: 230

Sunday School: 236

## OUR GIFTS

Received Week Ending	1/24/09	\$ 13,287
Received Year to Date:		37,349
Spent Year to Date:		35,202

## General Fund Contributions

Received Week Ending	1/24/09	12,837
Received Year to Date:		35,610

## Special Offerings

Memorials & Special Offerings: 350

## OUR SERVICE

**Sunday School Coffee for February:** New Beginnings

**Narthex Table:** Cynthia Busbee

**Altar Stewards:** Barbara Higgins, Cheryl Means, Jane Bryan

**Crucifer:** Josh R.

**Acolytes:** Stuart N., Mason C.

**Ushers:** Margaret Combs, Billy Laney, Ed Hammond, Nina Newcomb, Ben Dusenbury

**Flowers:** The altar flowers are given to the glory of God in memory of Bill Stallings by Bob and Beverly Stallings.

## Hymns and Scriptures for 11:00 a.m. Service

*All Creatures of Our God and King* UMH No. 62  
*We Sing of Your Glory* TFWS No. 2011  
*I Was There to Hear Your Boring Cry* TFWS No. 2051  
*When Jesus the Healer Passed Through Galilee* UMH No. 263  
Mark 1:21-28

## Missionaries We Support

### Tim and Daina Datwyler

c/o The Mission Society, P.O. Box 922637,  
Norcross, GA 30010  
[datfam4ecuador@gmail.com](mailto:datfam4ecuador@gmail.com)

### Adam & Jennifer Dalenburg

[www.themissionsociety.org/missionaries/dalenburg](http://www.themissionsociety.org/missionaries/dalenburg)

Joseph: [ajdj93@gmail.com](mailto:ajdj93@gmail.com)

Samuel: [1Samuel16.6@gmail.com](mailto:1Samuel16.6@gmail.com)

Jennifer: [jenniferd63@gmail.com](mailto:jenniferd63@gmail.com)

Family: [dalenburgs@hotmail.com](mailto:dalenburgs@hotmail.com)

The Dalenburg Family c/o The Freeman Centre  
P O Box 413, Kumasi, Ghana West Africa

### Helen Byholt Lovelace

General Board of Global Ministries  
Ukraine

# MISCELLANEOUS

## Birthdays (February 1-7)

1	Cynthia B., Denver S., Devin S.
2	Jim D.
3	Martha E., Jean S., Thomas G.
4	Jennie B., Linda H.
5	Jimmy C., Kim Y., Susan D., Nathan G.
6	Davis B., Ray C., Madison S., Eric J.
7	Samantha E., Bobbie L., Rena' P., Amy R.

## Honorariums:

Lou Wolfe by Katherine Wilkinson

To the Jeannie McCrea Scholarship Fund for Jimmy Smith & Don Cantrell (the tire changers) by Mac & Jean Smurthwaite

Bob and Barbara Borom's anniversary by Mac & Jean Smurthwaite

## Memorials:

David Lowery, Coyet Lowery's brother, by Bob & Barbara Borom, Ed & Karen Spratt

Nola Caulder, Mary Lightsey's mother, by Jim & Nancy Bradley, Lane & Linda Peeler, Ed & Karen Spratt

To the Jeannie McCrea Scholarship Fund for David Lowery by Jim & Nancy Bradley

## Wednesday Night Suppers

Join us at 6pm each week thru April for fellowship suppers

**Menu: Surprise**

Red sign up slips are on the back table in Ashland Hall and in the pew racks in the Sanctuary

## Benefit Concert for Midlands Homeless

Where?	701 Center for Contemporary Art, 701 Whaley Street
When?	February 3 <sup>rd</sup> at 7:30 p.m.
Who?	The Sandlapper Singers, the Lucas War Hero Band, and Danielle Howe.
Sponsors:	The Midlands Interfaith Homeless Action Council
How much?	\$10 donation suggested.

## Inquirer's Class to Meet Sunday

Join us for our 3<sup>rd</sup> Inquirer's Class this Sunday, February 1<sup>st</sup> in the Library at 9:45 am. Discussion will be on United Methodist Church beliefs including the sacraments.  
Contact Rev. Nates at 798-5350, x 25 for more information.

## Welcome Ginny Womack!

Ginny comes from certificate of transfer from Christ UMC in Shreveport, Louisiana. Ginny is the sister of Mary Nell Wilson.

## Baptism

William Stephen C.

January 25, 2009

Parents are Jack & Kiley Cohoon

## Trustees

Mark your calendar for Saturday, February 21, 8 am-noon for a workday (shrubs and grounds). Please tools you think you may need.

### 2009 Trustees Goals

- Upgrade infant nursery, Rm 102. Install new cabinets with changing pad and a sink.
- Add storage cabinets to Rm 103.
- Install a fountain in the driveway circle, provided funds are available.
- Install new HVAC in Ashland Hall.
- Install new carpet in the narthex.
- Replace and/or repair the damaged folding chairs in Ashland Hall and classrooms.
- Replace deteriorated windows in Sunday School wing and Sanctuary.
- Install new kitchen range with a grill top.

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**TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) meets at Ashland on Monday evenings at 6:30 pm**  
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## Safe Sanctuary Policy

Providing a safe and secure church is not just the job of our teachers and nursery workers. It takes everyone supporting the ministries of Ashland. We hope you and your Sunday school class join us as we hear the changes and updates to our policy. All volunteers with children, youth and vulnerable adults must attend one of the following training dates: Feb 8, 15, 22 or March 1 at 9:45am in Ashland Hall.

## CPR & First Aid Training

CPR & First Aid training is being offered to our volunteers who work with children, youth and vulnerable adults. Volunteers should have received a letter concerning updating paper work and training dates. If you have not, contact Suzy (see newsletter front).

## **Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary Lay School Of Religion begins in March**

Information is on the bulletin board  
across from church office

## **Upcoming Events at Ashland**

February 24<sup>th</sup> – Fat Tuesday Pancake Supper  
February 25<sup>th</sup> – Ash Wednesday Service  
March 26<sup>th</sup> – Palmetto Mastersingers Concert  
April 12 – Easter Sunday – Combined Service @ 11 am  
April 26 – Ashland Mortgage Burning – Combined Service at 10:30 am followed by family cookout  
June 15-19 - Vacation Bible School

# UMYF

## **Love God. Love Others. Love Self.**

Each Wednesday @ 8:15 am –  
Youth Prayer Breakfast

Hot Dog Heaven, 7444 Broad River Rd.

**February 1<sup>st</sup>** – Youth will be collecting money for Homeworks and Oliver Gospel Mission after worship services

### **Praise Band & UMYF Cancelled**

### **February 8<sup>th</sup>**

4:00-5:00 pm – Council of the Illuminati  
District Youth Explosion at Red Bank UMC – Meet at Ashland at 5:00 pm – Bring \$5.00 for food

### **February 15<sup>th</sup>**

4:00-5:00 pm – Youth Praise Band Practice  
5:30 pm – UMYF – "Your Story: Dead to Self"

### **February 20<sup>th</sup>**

5:45 pm – Lock-in - Meet at church to go to Winter Jam – Please let Hunter know if you can drive – return to church at 11 pm – stay at church until 7 am on February 21st

## Wednesday Nights at Ashland

Join us at 6:30pm for:

“What makes us United Methodists?”

Feb 4 - “Wrap Up on Methodism” – Rev. Joel Jones

Feb 11 – Valentine’s Celebration

Feb 18 – Old Fashion Sing Along

## Flower Ministry

Flower ministry guidelines and the 2009 altar flower schedule are on the bulletin board across from the church office. Please select date(s) you would like to put flowers in the church.

## Alternative Giving Report

Haiti Children's Project \$301.67

Children's Garden \$461.66

Rural Mission \$702.67

Thank you for your help with this project.

*Ashland Missions Committee*



## United Methodist Women

Spiritual Growth – Days Apart  
Saturday, March 7<sup>th</sup> – 9 am – 1 pm  
Brookland UMC, Columbia

\$10 registration fee includes lunch

Speaker: Cathy Nelson, Director of Keepers of the Word, a Native American to Native American Community Outreach



## United Methodist Men

United Methodist Men will meet on Monday, February 2, 2009, at 6:30 in Ashland Hall. The meeting will begin at 6:30 with a home-cooked meal, followed by the program, which will be presented by Bob Crutchfield, and a brief business session. All men are encouraged to attend--even those who have never been to a meeting before.

Columbia District  
Annual Men's Fellowship  
and Fish Fry

Monday, February 23rd at 6:00 pm  
Dr. Tim McClendon, Guest Speaker  
Rehoboth UMC

Located across from Best Buy on Two Notch Rd.

### SHEPHERD'S CENTER OF ST. ANDREWS

Tuesdays – March 10<sup>th</sup> - 9:30am to 1:30pm  
For more information call Becky Swanson @731-9394.

### Valentine's Day with the VIPs

Ashland's Older Adults will go to lunch together on Saturday, February 14<sup>th</sup> to celebrate Valentine's Day. Lunch will be at 12 noon at "Flight Deck Restaurant" in Lexington. We will meet at the church at 11:30 am. Please come and bring a

### Communion Available for the Homebound

Please call the church office if you would like for one of the pastors to serve you Holy Communion at 798-5350, x 10.



Our youth will be holding soup pots at the exits after both worship services Sunday to collect your loose change that will go to Homeworks and Oliver Gospel Mission.

## Upcoming Events at Ashland

### Sunday, February 1, 2009 – Galatians 3:1-14

8:45 AM *The Path*, Ashland Hall  
9:45 AM Sunday School for All Ages  
Inquirer's Class, Library  
11:00 AM Traditional Worship Service, Sanctuary  
5:30 PM Disciple II, #115  
6:30 PM New Testament Study, #113

### Monday, February 2, 2009 – Psalm 91

10:00 AM Staff Meeting, #138  
6:30 PM Romans Study, #113  
UMM, Ashland Hall  
TOPS, #125  
7:30 PM Girl Scouts

### Tuesday, February 3, 2009 – 2 Corinthians 4:1-6

9:30 AM Shepherd's Center of St. Andrews

### Wednesday, February 4, 2009 – Matthew 25:31-46

8:15 AM Youth Prayer Breakfast, Hot Dog Heaven  
6:00 PM Wednesday Night Supper  
Al Anon  
6:30 PM Children's Activities  
The Path Music Ensemble  
Adult Study – United Methodist Beliefs  
Congregational Care, #138  
7:30 PM Worship Choir

### Thursday, February 5, 2009 – John 6:25-34

9:00 AM DOADAS, Ashland Hall  
10:30 AM Ladies Prayer Group  
6:30 PM Sunshine Circle, #138  
7:00 PM Columbia Chess Club  
7:30 PM Arpad Darazs Singers

### Friday, February 6, 2009 – Philippians 4:10-13

**Saturday, February 7, 2009 – Romans 10:8-15**  
9:00 AM SS Men's Basketball, Eastminister Presbyterian vs. Ashland, YMCA, 1420 Sumter Street

### Sunday, February 8, 2009 – 1 John 1:1-10

8:45 AM *The Path*, Ashland Hall  
9:45 AM Sunday School for All Ages  
11:00 AM Traditional Worship Service, Sanctuary  
1:30 PM CPR Training, Ashland Hall  
4:00 PM Council of the Illuminati  
5:00 PM UMYF leaves for Red Bank UMC  
5:30 PM Disciple II, #115  
6:30 PM New Testament Study, #113

Devotions are from the *The Upper Room* devotion book. Upcoming events are on the website ashlandumc.com

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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IRMO SC 29063

Ashland United Methodist Church  
2600 Ashland Rd  
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