



# ASHLAND UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

## A STEPHEN MINISTRY CONGREGATION

*Joining Together on a Christian Journey of Love and Service* **November 22, 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

As we approach Thanksgiving this week, I'd like to share a story from a master storyteller, Philip Gulley, Quaker pastor and writer of [Back Porch Tales](#), [Front Porch Tales](#) and [Back to Harmony](#) books. He recalls with gratefulness and thanksgiving the kindness bestowed upon him by an elderly gentleman when he was a little kid. He writes:

"In the 5<sup>th</sup> grade I fell madly in love with a new girl named Barbara. We sat alphabetically in school and since her last name began with a D and mine with a G she was placed next to me. I would sit in my chair and inhale Barbara's perfume thanking God my last name was Gulley and not Zelinski.

Halfway through the year, Barbara's stepfather adopted her and her last initial changed from D to W and she moved 4 rows over next to David Zelinsky. Thus was David's' faith in a benevolent God reborn while I teetered on the edge of atheism.

To top it off I contracted a virus which caused 26 warts to grow on my hands. I asked God to heal my affliction but nothing happened. On Mondays Barbara would steal glances at my hands, speculating on what repulsive deed I must have done to merit such a leprous condition.

I went to a miracle worker in the city who burned the warts off. But they grew back. Then my doctor sent us to a man who froze my warts off. They froze, they disappeared they came right back. The next summer my father took me to visit Harvey Ellis.

My father was forever taking me to meet people like Harvey Ellis, hoping their Christian values would rub off on me. The Saturday I met Mr. Ellis, he shook my hand and then said, 'I notice you have warts.'

'Yes sir 35 of them,' I told him, 'and increasing by the week.' He eyed me up and down, then pulled a 50 cent piece from the chest pocket of his overalls. 'I'll buy them from you.' What? He handed me a 50 cent piece. I took the half dollar from his work worn hand. 'Keep that money and when your warts go away, use that same money to buy someone else's warts.'

By the time our county fair came my warts had vanished. Incredible but true.

I prowled the midway looking for Barbara now eager to make myself available for hand holding if she had a mind to. But that summer she was holding hands with David Zelinski. Still to be wart free was such a blessing that her indifference scarcely mattered.

When I recall how Mr. Ellis brought me back into the human fold, I remember that Jesus once took ten lepers in hand and did the same. For years, they'd stood on the outside looking in. Then with a touch and a word and a healing, Jesus unlatched the gate and welcomed them home. Kindness is always looking to swing wide the mercy gate.

Mr. Ellis died next year. I tucked the 50 cent piece away in a box, and every now and again I pull it out to hold it. I've read somewhere that warts are genetic, so I'm saving it for my son. Just before Mr. Ellis died, we named the park for him. I drive by and recall a Saturday morning, long ago, when a kind old man took an awkward young boy in hand and gifted him with a healing, warts and all.

Let there be a song of thanksgiving in your heart and in your life today. Be thankful not only for what God has done for you in the past or what you hope God will do for you in the future. Be thankful to God now."

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*Organist*

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**Martha Eastburn**  
*Pianist*



## 'Tis The Season!

The *Christmas Giving Tree*, an Ashland tradition, is set up in the narthex, filled with Christmas requests. **YOU** can choose one or more of the "Angels" which denote family members from Sharing God's Love, or "Cards" which represent some of Epworth Children's Home's children. **Be sure to fill in the sign-up sheet** when **YOU** take an "Angel" or "Card". Some requests are for gift cards, instead of actual gifts. **DO NOT WRAP** gifts for the children of Epworth; you can use gift bags or gift boxes. If you can't get by the church to get a request off the tree, bring a store gift card, and it will be used for someone whose name was not chosen. **The deadline for turning in gifts and gift cards is Dec. 13<sup>th</sup>!**

### Sharing God's Love Current Needs

Current needs are: spaghetti sauce, spaghetti, soup, grits, jelly, all sizes of sheets and towels, deodorant, bar soap, dish detergent, toilet paper. Please check the mission bulletin board for the new flyer. Thank you for your continuing help.~Missions Committee

### Stewardship Update

Proposed 2010 Budget	\$751,395
Pledges Received to Date	505,108
Percent of 2010 Budget	67%

- You may place your pledge card in the offering plate or mail it to the church office to the attention of Karen Zobel.
- Blank pledge cards and time and talents sheets may be found on the back table in Ashland Hall and on the chests in the Sanctuary.
- Forms for electronic giving are in the box outside the Director of Financial Ministries office.

### **YOU ARE INVITED**

**What:** Fifth Sunday Breakfast

**Where:** Ashland Hall

**Why:** Because we love to eat and fellowship. Help us celebrate the start of the Advent Season.

**When:** November 29, 2009 @ 9:15 am

**How:** Bring a breakfast dish to share

## Celebrations and Remembrances

### Birthdays (November 22-28)

22	Brookie G., Roger G.
24	Nicholas J.
25	David L., Nora T.
26	Peggy L.
27	Elliott G.
28	Debbie A., Lou W., Heidi B.

### Honorariums

Ben Gustafson by Bob & Barbara Borom, Harold Reid

Hugh & Ruth Westbury by Bob & Helen Barham

### Memorials

Larry Hodgins by John & Sandra Calore, Virginia Combs

Bud Anderson by John & Sandra Calore, Jimmy & Margaret Smith, Bob & Mylla Markland, Lewis & Arlene Milligan, Virginia Combs, Lane & Linda Peeler, Marian West, Richard & Susie Bid Brown

Martha Busbee by John & Sandra Calore, Robert & Peggy Smith, Lane & Linda Peeler, Rosemary Sanders

Dennis Newcomb by Rosemary Sanders

Jeannie McCrea Scholarship Fund for Bud Anderson by Charlie & Debbie Matthews, Trish Lockaby

Jeannie McCrea Scholarship Fund for Barry Willing by Charlie & Debbie Matthews

Jeannie McCrea Scholarship Fund for Martha Busbee by Charlie & Debbie Matthews

### ***Valet Parking Coming Soon***

We hope to offer valet parking soon for the members and visitors of Ashland who would benefit from this service. If you are interested in being a valet or would benefit from this service, please contact the church office @798-5350.

### Eagle Scout Invitation

The congregation is invited to attend Ben G. Eagle Scout Ceremony Sunday, November 22<sup>nd</sup> at 2 pm in the Sanctuary followed by a Reception in Ashland Hall.

### Thank You

"Thanks to the overwhelming generosity of Ashland members, friends and family we will be sending a check to *BEADS for LIFE* for just over \$2200 dollars. Our class is truly humbled by the amazing support this project has generated and would like to thank everyone who helped."

New Beginnings Sunday School Class.

**Upcoming Events at Ashland**

- December 6<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 pm - Moravian Lovefeast, Ashland Hall
- December 7<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 pm - United Methodist Men Christmas Dinner
- December 13<sup>th</sup> - 10:30 am - Worship Choir - *A Festival of Lessons and Carols* followed by Souper Lunch in Ashland Hall
- December 20<sup>th</sup> - 6:30 pm - Children's Musical - *The Christmas Pageant*
- December 24<sup>th</sup> - 6:00 pm - Christmas Eve Candlelight Holy Communion Service followed by Reception in Ashland Hall
- December 31<sup>st</sup> - 6:00 pm - New Year's Eve Communion Service

**PLAYGROUND**

Make a donation in honor of your kids or grandkids for a nicer and safer place for all our kids to play on Sundays and throughout the week.

We hope to order the new equipment by Christmas. If willing to contribute, make your checks payable to Ashland UMC, earmarked *Playground*. *(we're almost there!!!)*

Thank you for generously giving: \$27,523

**Balance needed: \$5752**

**Annual Soup Lunch December 13<sup>th</sup>**

Soup lunch at 11:45am, Ashland Hall, following the Choir's Christmas program. Plan to bring your favorite crackpot of soup. Let us know you will bring a pot. We will furnish the cornbread. Call or email Suzy Speas or Ruth Cornell (rcornellpchef@bellsouth.net)



Dessert provided by the children (and parents) of Ashland as they sponsor a BAKE SALE raising money for the playground. Support their efforts with your generous appetite.

(Leave in offering plate or Suzy's office)

YES I'll bring # \_\_\_\_\_ pot(s) of soup.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**United Methodist Youth**

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

Youth Prayer Breakfast Wednesdays at 8 am  
Hot Dog Heaven, Broad River Road

November 22		Youth Sunday – The Path & 11 a.m.
	2:00 pm	Ben Gustafson Eagle Scout Ceremony/ Sanctuary/Ashland Hall
	4:30 pm	Youth Choir
	5:30 pm	Asgard Outreach – Game Night
November 29	4:30 pm	Youth Choir
	5:30 pm	Small Groups
December 6	4:00 pm	Council of the Illuminati
	4:30 pm	Youth Choir
	5:30 pm	Asgard Worship

**Cornerstone Class Christmas Dinner Party**

Saturday, December 5<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm in the Youth building. Cornerstone members, visitors, and friends are invited to attend. Contact Cindy Ward at 781-7783 for more information.

**SCUMC Leadership Nomination Form**

If you are interested in being nominated for a leadership position for the SC United Methodist Church, forms can be found on the chests in the sanctuary or in the narthex. Please return the completed form to the church office.



**United Methodist Women  
Ashland Ornaments**

Ornaments depicting our church are available. Gold ones are \$16 and sun catchers are \$20. Contact Beth Wilkinson (345-0595) or Nina Newcomb (345-1386) if interested.



**United Methodist Men  
Christmas Dinner**

You are invited to the annual UMM Christmas Ladies' Night Dinner on Monday, December 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm in Ashland Hall. Cost is \$15.00 per person for a steak dinner prepared by Robert Smith, with entertainment by Lavon Stack. Payment can be made at the dinner. Reservations are required by November 29<sup>th</sup> and can be made by completing this form and putting it in the offering plate, signing the list in your Sunday School class, or calling Jimmy Smith (781-6944) or Tom Wilkinson (345-0595).

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Number who will be attending \_\_\_\_\_

**Living Out Our Faith**  
**November 22, 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**

Virginia Combs – NHC, West Columbia, #122B  
Jane Reichman – Lexington Extended Care, Camilia Court  
Bill Turner – Brian Center

In Memoriam: Roy D. Wiedemann, brother-in-law of Barbara Wiedemann died November 6, 2009. Service was held November 9, 2009 in Columbia.

**OUR PRESENCE**

Worship: 382 The Path: 144 Traditional: 238 Sunday School: 220

**OUR GIFTS**

Received Week Ending	11/14/09	\$ 34,832
Received Year to Date:		674,930
Spent Year to Date:		632,386

**General Fund Contributions**

Received Week Ending	11/14/09	33,549
Received Year to Date:		594,205

**Special Offerings**

Memorials & Special Offerings: 1,220

**OUR SERVICE**

**Sunday School Coffee for November:** Good News

**Narthex Table:** Harriet Ward, Kaye Easterling

**Altar Stewards:** Dottie Shelly, Debbie Sandersfeld

**Ushers for November:** Hal Von Nessen, Susan Von Nessen, Margaret

Amick, Jerry Rushchkofski, Craig Hatch, Bud Graczyk

**Greeters:** SS: Gay Winter & Linda Abernathy

Worship: Linda Franklin & Gay Winter

**Nursery:** 8:45 am: Courtney Kelso, Betsy Boozer, Cheryl Means

SS: Janet Hatch, Kim Crutchfield, Lynda Mixon, Mac Credille, Cheryl

McClay, Valerie Railey; 11 am Worship: Valerie & Paige R., Jayne

Beachler, Phil & Terri Miller, Mollie McClellan

**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)

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The Dalenburg Family BP 278, Thies, Senegal

**Helen Byholt Lovelace**

General Board of Global Ministries

Ukraine

**This Week at Ashland**

**Sunday, November 22, 2009 – Psalm 119:97-106**

8:45 AM	<i>The Path</i> , Ashland Hall
9:45 AM	Sunday School for All Ages
11:00 AM	Traditional Worship, Sanctuary
12:00 Noon	Gustafson Family, Ashland Hall
2:00 PM	Gustafson Eagle Scout Ceremony, Sanctuary
4:30 PM	Youth Choir, Choir Room
5:30 PM	United Methodist Youth, Youth Building
5:30 PM	Disciple I, #115
6:00 PM	Paul's Letters, #126, John, #113

**Monday, November 23, 2009 – Daniel 12:1-13**

6:15 PM TOPS, #125

**Tuesday, November 24, 2009 – 1 Peter 1:13-25**

6:30 PM Stephen Ministry, #125

**Wednesday, November 25, 2009 – Acts 16:25-34**

6:00 PM Al Anon, #127

6:00 PM Overeaters Anonymous, #129

**Thursday, November 26, 2009 – Ephesians 1:3-14**

**Thanksgiving Day – Church Office Closed**

**Friday, November 27, 2009 – Ezekiel 34:20-31**

**Church Office Closed**

**Saturday, November 28, 2009 – Proverbs 15:1-4**

**Sunday, November 29, 2009 – John 1:6-8, 19-28**

9:15 AM	Fellowship Breakfast
10:30 AM	Combined Service, Sanctuary
4:30 PM	Youth Choir, Choir Room
5:30 PM	United Methodist Youth, Youth Building
5:30 PM	Disciple I, #115
6:00 PM	Paul's Letters, #126, John, #113

Devotions are from *The Upper Room*. Other calendar events can be found on the website [www.ashlandumc.com](http://www.ashlandumc.com)

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

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US POSTAGE  
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PERMIT No. 18  
IRMO SC 29063

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