

February, 2007

Pastor's Notes



Grace and Peace to you in the name of the one who is and was and is to come!

I wanted to thank you all for taking the time throughout PRAY215 to give God your time and energy! Our theme for 2007 is becoming commUNITY215 - "Where Peace is found with God, others and ourselves through worship and service." It has been wonderful to hear the testimonies this year of how God is working through this community of faith in such a real and powerful way.

When you buy a whole city block, it is certainly an indicator that God is speaking to the hearts of his people! Thank you again for your faithfulness and when you see Harold and Sally B, thank them again for this incredible gift!!

We continue to have exciting things in store for 2007. Everyone should have received a letter in 2006 explaining how we were realigning our church family to be listed in 5 different zones based on where you live. A deacon and deaconess has been assigned to provide encouragement, counsel and connection with each family in their zone.

As we prepare for our revival with Rev. Jack Eades on March 18 - 21, we would like to encourage cottage prayer meetings on Sunday nights leading up to the revival. The plan is to take each of these zones and create commUNITY215 Clusters. We would find at least four homes in each cluster that would be willing to host a cottage prayer meeting. Each cluster has around 30 families so we would ask those families to sign up ahead of time as to which house they would go to for one of the cottage prayer meetings. The cottage prayer meetings would be set up to last a little over an hour. You would have a time to share your prayer concerns and to bring a list of five people that you would like to personally invite to the revival.

We would like to start these prayer meetings on February 21 as we head into the forty days leading up to Palm Sunday. We will be providing a prayer devotional entitled "Seek God for the City 2007." As you daily share through this powerful resource, it can be used as a gathering point for the cottage prayer meetings.

God has called us to be in commUNITY together. Our prayer is that it would be a commUNITY that is known for its Unifying worship, Nurturing fellowship, Instructional discipleship, Team ministry, and Yoked missions.

Shalom,

Pastor Jon

Youth Pastor's Notes

Our Wednesday Night Live program, which is an in-depth look at God's Word, is going strong. The youth are studying "Who Am I When No One's Looking?" We have discussed the following topics during the month of January: Honesty, Integrity, Wisdom, Humility, and Trust. We are averaging 13 on Wednesday nights. I encourage all of our youth to come join us for this time of discipleship. During the month of February we will be studying Generosity, Compassion, and Faithfulness.

I also wanted to share that our Middle School Mania is up and running. Middle School Mania is a ministry offered to our middle school students twice a month after school, and it provides help with homework, dinner, and fellowship time. We met twice in January with 15 attending each time. This month we will meet on February 7 & 28 from 3 - 6 p.m. Middle school parents mark you calendars! Junior High Convention will be Friday, March 2 through Sunday, March 4 at Williamstown Baptist Church. The cost is \$25.

The Final Buzzer has been a lot of fun and well attended. On January 12 there were 72 kids and adults, and on January 19 we had 120! A big thanks to all that have donated pop, chips, baked goods, and their time to this ministry. Our last Final Buzzer will be Friday, February 9 from 9 - 11:30 p.m. The band "Dead Line" will be here as well. Come join the celebration with door prizes, free food, play station, board games, card games, and more! Make plans to attend and bring a friend.

Mick & Susan P hosted BYF on Sunday, January 14. Susan provided some great snacks and coach (Mick) did a great job challenging our youth to impact others as they walk daily with Christ. A big thanks to them. Our next home visit will be SUPER BOWL SUNDAY, February 4, at the home of Phyllis P, beginning at 6 p.m. February 11 thru March 11 our Sunday BYF will be divided into small groups led by our very own youth. Our curriculum will be Jesus 24/7. Our Sunday BYF attendance has been awesome during the month of January.

On Friday, February 23 the Newsboys are in concert at the Charleston Auditorium. Tickets are \$23. Anyone interested in attending should contact Anthony as soon as possible to purchase a ticket!

The youth ministry is working on highlighting our high school seniors in the bulletin every other Sunday for the next three months. We are asking each senior to turn in the following information: high school activities and awards, future college plans and a senior picture!

Looking forward to a great February!

Anthony

February Articles

Annual Meeting

Here is an update on the business conducted at our Annual Meeting on Wednesday, January 17. With right at 60 people present in the meeting, the following decisions were made:

The church voted to allow Anthony Pratt to regard 313 Mulberry Street as a parsonage. This allows him to experience a \$6,600 benefit while the church incurs an expense of \$3,000. Anthony will no longer pay rent and the church will assume the responsibility of the utilities. The balance of the mortgage is only \$13,448.

The church voted to purchase the B Property for \$132,500

We launched Capital Campaign 215 which has yielded commitments of \$33,930 over the next three years and...

A one time, upfront commitment of \$7,825

Interest income available of \$1,704

A matching gift for money collected by March 26, 2007, up to \$25,000

A total of \$6,084 given the last two Sunday's through the offering

We will continue to accept commitment cards over the next few weeks, and envelopes have been placed in the pews marked Capital Campaign 215. If you have any further questions please contact Pastor Jon, a Deacon, or a Trustee to make sure we are communicating and moving forward together!

CC215 Donations

The finance committee would like for you to specifically mark any donations that you would like to give toward the Capital Campaign 215 (CC215). Special CC215 envelopes are in the pews and available from the ushers or church office. During CC215, Building Fund designations will be kept separate, so please specify where you would like your donation to be directed. We have been offered a \$25,000 matching grant if the church has in hand at the day of closing the some amount if not more!! The closing date for the purchase of the property is tentatively set for the last of March or the 1st of April. If you have not turned in your proposed commitment card for Capital Campaign 215 we would kindly ask you to place them in the white box at the front of the church.

Campbell's

Phyllis M is now our Campbell's coordinator. New guidelines have been sent from the Campbell's company about what portion of the label to save. As shown in the picture above, you now only have to save the UPC and the picture beside it.

Unfortunately, we are unable to send in the label fronts we've collected recently, but we know we'll still have plenty of UPC's turned in! Along with all varieties of Campbell's canned soups, we can also trim the UPC's from their microwavable soups and Supper Bakes meal kits, as well as V8 beverages and Pepperidge Farms Goldfish crackers. Thanks for continuing to help out with this ministry!

Deacon Relief Fund

The Deacons will begin accepting contributions to the Deacon Relief Fund the first Sunday of each month of 2007. Those blessings are used for emergencies for members of our congregation and others in need for such things as utility payments, food, and many other purposes. You will be blessed in this process of giving. Thank you for your help.