

Shepherd to Shepherd

"Stand and shepherd His flock in the strength of the Lord" Micah 5:4

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Pastors' Newsletter

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Eddie Estep

District Superintendent

• *Christlike Disciples*

• *Holiness Pastors*

• *Missional Churches*



From My Heart to Yours

What is the Big Deal about WEF?

In a recent church board meeting I heard a local NMI President make an impassioned plea for a church board commitment to fulfilling the church's World Evangelism Fund (WEF) obligation. Her church, like most, is feeling the effects of the financial climate. She, however, was not giving in to a "victim mentality," nor was she willing to let her church slip into "survival mode."

A local church can do major things but it can only directly touch a small area of the world. Through our "connection," our many churches support a system of world evangelism that is global in its impact. This is the strength and benefit of a denomination.

In his annual report to the General Board, Dr. Louie Bustle, Director of World Mission, shared that the following took place each week during the past year in World Mission areas:

- Organized 35 new churches and missions
- Received 1,946 new Nazarenes
- Printed and translated 5 World Mission Literature books each week
- Reached 122 world areas through over 7,000 radio broadcasts in 30 languages

- Supported over 11,800 children through Nazarene Compassionate Ministries in 80 world areas
- Sent 14 Work and Witness teams to the field
- Gave over 370 evangelistic presentations through the JESUS Film

Why should each Church of the Nazarene make the World Evangelism Fund a priority? Because it gives each local church the opportunity to partner in world evangelism and be a part of what God is doing in 155 areas around the world.

God blesses churches that are a blessing to others. It appears to me that the best thing a church can do to ensure its future is to support missions. I've never known a church to close that met its World Evangelism Fund goal.

South Carolina World Evangelism Fund giving, as of 3/09/09, totaled \$369,558, or 54% of our goal of \$684,707.

Eddie Estep
District Pastor

Next month: Why is the end-of-the church year such a significant time?

Bits-N-Pieces

PRAYER REQUESTS: Hubert Richardson (Batesburg); Paul Wiggins (retired pastor); Pastor Cheryl (Sumter First associate) and Chuck Kammermann at the passing of their daughter Christa Kearney and son-in-law Brian Kearney; Trenton Rupert (Charleston First PK) as he undergoes surgery on May 4

Camp Work Days will take place March 30-April 2 and April 27-29. Come join us!

Cherrydale Hispanic (NewStart) is urgently in need of the following: chairs (adult and children), microphones and PA system, video projector, musical instruments, computer and computer desk, and church van or bus. If you are able to provide any of these, please contact Pastor Jonathan Saenz at 954.465.3969.

We will again be highlighting baptisms in the district assembly rally service on Tuesday night, July 28. Please forward pictures of baptisms this church year to Rachael Watts (nascdist@cs.com) for inclusion in the baptism video.

Congratulations to John Porter and the Chester church board on their excellent review at the 6th anniversary of Pastor Porter's service to the Chester church. Congratulations to Pastor Henry Adams and the Great Falls church board on their successful review on the occasion of the 11th anniversary of Pastor Adams' service to the church. Congratulations to Pastor Gary Rupert and the Charleston First church board on their successful review on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of Pastor Rupert's service to the church.

Congratulations to Jina Coleman and Geoffrey Johnson who were married on Friday, March 6, 2009. Jina is the daughter of Richard (Lexington Shepherd) and Loraine Coleman.

John Powell will become the pastor at Batesburg on April 5, after serving Orangeburg First the last six years.

Lugoff Faith has called Scott Crandall to serve as their pastor. Scott, his wife Tammie, and their children, Rebekkah and David, will celebrate their first Sunday at Lugoff on April 26.

Interim Assignments: Ron Pelton continues to serve Columbia First as interim pastor. John Sanders is serving Lugoff Faith as interim pastor. Fred Coburn will be serving Orangeburg First as interim pastor. Bob Albert is serving Batesburg as interim pastor.

Mike Blankenship (Summerville) has been appointed to replace Geoff Kunselman on the Ministerial Credentials Board

PALCON 2010 at TNU will take place May 11-13, 2010. All South Carolina ministers are encouraged to mark their calendars and plan for these important days together.

Evangelist Mickey Smith has informed us of his availability for any church that wants revival but is financially stretched. He has a strong desire to stay busy. You may contact him at 803.327.0353.