

Shepherd to Shepherd

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

South Carolina District Church of the Nazarene * 150 McSwain Dr., West Columbia, SC 29169 * (803) 794-2209

Pastors' Newsletter

04/15/09 * Issue 27



Eddie Estep

District Superintendent

• *Christlike Disciples*

• *Holiness Pastors*

• *Missional Churches*



From My Heart to Yours

WHY IS THE END OF THE CHURCH YEAR SO SIGNIFICANT?

Marathon runners like to finish strong, not just limp across the finish line. For South Carolina Nazarene pastors, the end of the church year (May 31) marks the end of our annual ministry marathon. Here are some ways to finish strong:

Plan the Nominating Committee meeting. This is perhaps the most important committee meeting of the year, as nominees for church leadership are prayerfully selected. Church Nominating Committees are usually appointed by the pastor and approved by the church board (*Manual*, 113.9) before beginning their important work of preparing a ballot for the annual meeting. All nominees should agree to *Manual* 39 before allowing their names to be on the ballot.

Set a date for the Annual Meeting. This meeting is mandated by the *Manual* (113.7), and at minimum will involve reports (verbal or written) and elections. Elections can be spread over a two-Sunday time period. The ballot for the annual meeting should be

presented to the voting body in advance of the elections. If desired, the ballot could be presented in a church meeting on one Sunday, and then the voting could begin the following Sunday. It is permissible to have a polling place designated in a separate area in the church.

Plan a Sunday in May to baptize believers and receive members. Please remember to send baptism photos to the district office for the baptism video at district assembly.

Review the status of World Evangelism Fund and District Fair Share giving and determine a plan to address any shortfall in these areas.

In conjunction with the local church finance committee, develop your church's operating budget, mission budget, and auxiliary budgets (SDMI, NYI, NMI) for the 2009-2010 church year.

Complete the Pastor's Annual Report and associated district reports and forms by June 10.

Eddie Estep
District Pastor

Bits-N-Pieces

Camp Manager Dennis Johnson gives the following report concerning Camp Work Days #1. There were 47 people that contributed 118 days of work, 1,000 hours time, and completed 73 jobs! Camp Work Days #2 will take place April 27-29.

Pastor Brian Walker (York) reports that on Sunday, April 5, he had the privilege of baptizing 8 people, (5 children, 1 teen, and 3 adults), and there were 60 in attendance!

Pastor Carey Pratt (Hartsville First) reports that March 29 was a great day for their church. Five new members joined by profession of faith in the morning service and nine young people were baptized in the evening service, five of whom were saved on their recent ski trip!

Pastor T. W. Mitchell (Ashwood) reports a renewed interest in the church's music that has led to an increase in attendance in all services, and some recent services in which the church experienced a special outpouring of God's Spirit and anointing.

We are grateful for our churches that have made an annual offering to Nazarene Bible College this year. If you have not yet been able to give, please consider giving a generous offering to Nazarene Bible College. If you need envelopes or brochures, please call 1.800.873.3873, ext. 5065.

Brandon and Amanda Watts have been called to co-pastor at Orangeburg First. Their first Sunday will be May 10, 2009. We welcome Brandon and Amanda and their daughter Anne Elizabeth to our South Carolina District pastoral team.

Pastors are reminded of the importance of providing district newsletters for Nazarenes in all of our churches. Please either print several copies or make your congregation aware of the availability of the newsletter on the district website (www.scnazdist.net).

TNU has created a section on the TNU website that has Trevecca slides and info posters for you to use in your local church. The online Trevecca Marketing Kit for your church can be accessed at <http://www.trevecca.edu/info/emktg>.

Evangelist Bill Ulmet has dates open June 10 through August 12 and would be available for revivals or pulpit supply. He's also available September 1-16. You can contact him at 217.714.0973.

Evangelist Bob Morris is available for supply work and revivals in South Carolina. He recently held a great revival in Ashwood. You can contact him at 803.236.2816.

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