

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

OF FAITH AND FITNESS

Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint. (Isaiah 40:31)

A few years ago, as I was approaching my 40th birthday, I took personal inventory of several areas of life: spiritual, emotional, relational, and physical. As a result, I set goals in each area, especially regarding physical fitness. I was overweight at the time, and exercised rarely. That's when I began running. One of my goals was to run a marathon, which I did a few months after my 40th birthday. Since then I have finished 12 marathons and half-marathons. (Yes, I know I'm built more like a bowler than a runner!)

I began running so I could eat cheesecake and not feel guilty or get fatter. I kept running because of the many benefits. After awhile I discovered I enjoy it. I feel better, sleep better, and have a better attitude. I think a lot and pray a lot when I run.

Run in such a way as to get the prize. (1 Corinthians 9:24)

If you are like me, goals are important. Here's a goal for all of us: Let's run the Cooper River Bridge Run in Charleston on Saturday morning, March 27, 2010. (Three of our pastors ran the Cooper River Bridge Run last March.)

The Summerville Church has graciously agreed to allow us to sleep in their fellowship hall on Friday night (March 26). We will gather at the church and then go to a nearby Fazoli's to load up on pasta and carbs. Transportation to the race start, and from the race finish back to the church, will also be provided the morning of the run. (Special thanks to Richard Coleman for handling these logistics.) More information will be forthcoming as the date nears.

Start exercising now and you will be ready to run, walk, or run/walk the six miles. There are several good training programs to be found on the Internet. Don't forget to register! You can do that online at www.bridgerun.com.

Let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. (Hebrews 12:1)

*Eddie Estep
District Pastor*

Bits-N-Pieces

"Dates to Remember"

October

29 District "Teaching Church" Day, Manning NewStart

November

9 District Advisory Board, 7:00 p.m.

December

7 District Christmas Banquet, Brookland Baptist Community Center

January

4 District Advisory Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
16 Mid-Year Rally, Seawell's
25-28 Ministry Team Retreat, Myrtle Beach, with Dr. Jesse Middendorf

February

15-16 Pastors' Pre-Lent Prayer Summit

March

25 "Teaching Church" Seminar at Greenville First
27 Cooper River Bridge Run

May

11-13 PALCON at TNU

UPDATES

PRAYER REQUESTS Pastor John Powell (Batesburg) undergoing cancer treatment; the family and friends of Luke Hoover at his passing, Rev. Hubert Richardson (retired pastor); Alice Mitchell (Ashwood); Captain Greg Brunson (Chaplain, Summerville) deployed to Afghanistan; the mother of Pattie Walker (York); Doris Smith (mother of Peggy Smith) recovering from pacemaker surgery; Pastor T. W. Mitchell (Ashwood) at the passing of his sister. Trenton Rupert (Charleston First PK) surgery on November 2.

Congratulations to Rev. Sammy Geddings on the unanimous call from the Sumter Wise Drive membership. On October 4 Pastor Geddings was officially installed as pastor of the church in a service that also marked the dedication of their newly restored and remodeled sanctuary.

Congratulations to Matt Johnson and the Greenwood Community church board on their successful two-year review.

Congratulations to Pastor John Griggs (Conway) and Jenny Davis, who were married on Sunday, October 4, at Hartsville First Church of the Nazarene.

A NewStart effort is being made in Georgetown, sponsored by Pastor Dale Turner and G. W. Harrell and Manning NewStart Church. A "first service" is planned for November 8.

The October Pastors' Prayer Summit, facilitated by Pastor Brenda Turner, was attended by 35 SC ministers.

The DAB recently adopted the policy that travel expense for district boards and committees would be reimbursed at 50% of current IRS standards.

Please plan your annual offering for Nazarene Bible College. This year there are more than 850 individuals studying online with NBC. This annual offering is significant for the continued and effective ministry of NBC in preparing men and women for the ministry. For more information, please call 1.800.873.3873, ext. 5065, or visit them at www.nbc.edu. Your church's gift counts toward 10% mission giving.

FAIR SHARE UPDATE: At present, all but four of our churches are current on Fair Share Giving! Thank you so much for your faithfulness and commitment to others.

THINKING AHEAD

- Consider "adopting" a pastor and his/her family for Christmas. This could involve receiving a love offering for the family, inviting the pastor and family to join you on a Wednesday night, having them share the devotional and then presenting them with gifts. Please feel free to contact the DS for suggestions.
- Begin to make Faith Promise plans for 2010, or for the November 2009 Thanksgiving Offering for World Mission.
- Put Baptism Sunday dates on the church calendar for this church year, and begin to advertise them.
- Put Membership Sunday dates (and corresponding Membership classes which should precede each date) on the church calendar for this church year, and begin to plan for them.
- The 21st Winter Olympics will be held February 12-28, 2010, in Vancouver. What sermon series or special church activities could you plan in conjunction with the Winter Games?
- Potential Sermon Series: Stewardship Series in January, "Love in Action" series in February. Olympics series in February, Lenten series in February/March.