

# Asbury News continued...

## **WELCOME TO THE ASBURY FAMILY**

At the 11:00 AM Service on January 24th, we welcomed David W. and Carroll C. Williams into our Asbury family. The Williams are transferring their membership from the Eastminister Presbyterian Church in Columbia to Asbury. They live at 7 Candlewood Lane in Columbia (29209). Their home phone number is 783-9252. David is a retired Nuclear Engineer having worked for the Westinghouse Corporation. Carroll is a homemaker. Please send a card or note to David and Carroll welcoming them to the Asbury family.

## **UNITED METHODIST MEN'S NEWS:**

Scholarships of \$750 each were awarded in January by the Asbury Men's Fellowship to Casey Clark at Columbia College, Lauren Smith at Clemson University and Jeremy Amick at the University of South Carolina. These awards bring the total number of scholarships to 24 totaling \$20,750 since January 2006.

The Columbia District's 27th Annual Men's Fellowship Night and Fish Fry is scheduled for Monday, February 22nd at Rehoboth UMC. Serving will start at 6:00 PM. Rehoboth is located across from Best Buy on Two Notch Road at Columbia Place Blvd. This will be an evening of spiritual enrichment through fellowship, music and worship. Dr. Tim McClendon, Columbia District Superintendent will be the guest speaker.

The annual United Methodist Men's barbeque dinner is scheduled for Saturday, March 6th from 12 noon until 5:00 pm. Tickets are \$8.00 for adults and \$4.00 for children and are available in the church office.

## **TOWN 'N COUNTRY CLUSTER NEWS:**

What is the Town 'N Country Cluster (you might ask)? Effective August 2009 the Columbia District of 67 churches (57 charges) were divided into multiple clusters of churches. The cluster grouping was according to geographical location. **Asbury** was clustered with the following churches: **Shandon, Epworth, Bluff Road, Mill Creek, Lebanon, and McLeod.** It was decided by the ministers representing those churches to name the cluster Town 'N Country because of the locations of the churches. The purpose of the cluster is to bring about collaboration in ministries and programs (especially ministries and to serve as an impetus for those belonging to these diverse churches to come together for fellowship. It was decided for the first activity to come together for worship during the Lenten Season. These gatherings would take place on Sunday afternoons (5-6 PM) beginning February 21st and continuing through March 21st. Five of the seven churches would host the worship service. The host church would provide the music (including the choir) and the brief message would be delivered by a pastor (not from the host church). Asbury will be the first host church on Sunday, February 21st. The visiting pastor would be the Reverend Mark Williams of the Lebanon United Methodist Church.

# Asbury—Prayer Driven Church...

Commencing Sunday, February 6th, we will commence our second step toward the goal of **Asbury = Prayer Driven Church**, a journey toward the ultimate goal of undergirding all that we do, and all that we are in prayer. We will commence *The Ministry of Prayer Ushers and Altar Prayers*. This will occur during the normal times of prayer during each service (9 and 11). The following information describes how this ministry will be enacted:

- The Pastor will introduce the time of prayer by lifting up concerns and/or updates that might or might not be known by the worshipping congregation. An opportunity will be given to those who want to lift up a concern.
- The prayer requests mentioned above will be followed by a hymn or prayer song (abbreviated version) sung by the seated congregation.
- During the singing, those “who feel led by the Spirit” are invited to come forward to the altar in the sanctuary or to the small altar in front of the screen in the Social Hall.
- The person who comes forward may either kneel at the altar in the sanctuary or at the altar bench in the Social Hall or stand, if that better serves your situation. You may stay as long as you need at the altar and then return to your seat.
- **If you would like a prayer usher to come and pray with you, you simply raise your hand.**
- **If you are unable to walk to the altar, yet, desire a prayer usher to pray with you, simply remain in your seat and raise your hand. The prayer usher will come to you.**
- **All, whether you come forward or not, are asked to pray silently at their seats.**
- Following this special time of prayer, the pastor will offer the Pastoral Prayer followed by the Lord's Prayer.

In summary, what is *The Ministry of Prayer Ushers and Altar Prayers*?

- The altar ministry is an example of what prayer is and can be anywhere and at any time.
- It is the conduction of extraordinary grace by ordinary people.
- It is an opportunity to usher someone into the presence of our Mighty God!
- Walking to the altar makes prayer more intentional.
- It combines the physical (the body) with the spiritual.
- It is also a testimony of faith to the others in the room.
- It is an opportunity to go to God's altar in prayer.



## *In Our Prayers ..*

Alexa Bailey (Charles Burroughs' niece), Sherry Bailey, Jack Ballentine (brother-in-law of Dorothy Clark), Bob Beasley (Pat Wall's brother), Carolyn Beckham, Myrtle Bently (Judy Axson's sister), Dorothy and Jack Bittner, Sterne Bolte, Julian & Doris Bowen, Abby Bradley (friend of Mary Eames), Tom Brantley, Aline Coggins (DeAnn Willard's grandmother), Mark Cox (son-in-law of Rodney and Mary Ann Derrick), Rebecca Crowe (Ann Cauthen's granddaughter), Jim Fuller and Mary Jane Fuller (Kathy Brown's parents), Sarah Gable, Elly Hinson, Eddie Johnson (Sally Johnson's son), Jeanne Kennedy (Elly Hinson's niece), James Kimbrough (Steve Kimbrough's father), Ron Laird (Carla's husband), Carl Matthews & Liz Matthews, Charles McAlister and Pat McAlister, Van McAlister, Mary Meeks, Beth Nance (Lindsay Sorrell's mother), Georgie Nelson (Elly Hinson's sister), Jenny Rolling (Carolyn Tippins' sister), The Family of Jean Russell (sister-in-law of Reid Owens), Mary Gail Salley (friend of Dorothy Clark and Ann Coggins), Dr. Fred Shealey, Jr. and Susan Shealey (son-in-law/daughter of Teresa Toombs), Dr. Charles and Grace Sloan, Rev. Mike and Audrey Smith, Hazel Soles (friend of John McGill), Family of Warren Stevens (nephew of Reba Avant), Pride Turner (Norma Turner's son), James Voss (Brenda Podewil's father), Bryant Watts, Monica Weaver & Amy Harbridge, Harriett Wilkinson (Glen Adams' business partner)

### *Continuing Care:*

Anne Watson—Agape—Leaphart  
Mary Jones—Country Wood Nursing Ctr.  
Debbie Amick—Heritage Healthcare Ridgeway, Ridgeway, SC  
Hilda Turbeville—Oakleaf Village, Lexington, SC  
Bill Cauthen, NHC Park Lane

### *Retirement Home:*

Nell Heriot—Methodist Oaks  
Lois Elkins—Indigo Pines

### *Military Service:*

Andrew Phillips  
Ted Podewil

# Scouting News

## **CUB SCOUT PACK NEWS:**

On January 30th, Pack 397 hosted their Pinewood Derby in the Youth Lounge. The boys worked on their cars several weeks getting them ready to look good and race well.

On February 27th, the pack will have their Blue & Gold Banquet in the Fellowship Hall at 6:30 pm. They will enjoy some great food and have a crossover for the Webelos to the Boy Scout Troop 397.

## **BOY SCOUT TROOP NEWS:**

On January 8th—10th, the troop rented a cabin at Keowee-Toxaway State Park for the weekend. Seven boys and three adults attended. We toured the visitor center and hiked the 4 mile trail in the park that was rated strenuous. We had lunch overlooking Lake Keowee and a golf course. It was a beautiful day.

On January 24th, Lykes Claytor (newest Eagle Scout at Troop 397), received his eagle badge at a Court of Honor at Saint Johns Episcopal Church in Congaree.

On February 19th—21st, the troop will camp at McEntire JNGB. There will be tours for the scouts. This should be a great campout.

## **BOY AND CUB SCOUT NEWS:**

Boy Scouts of America is 100 years old this year. Scout Sunday will be observed on February 14th. The Cub Scouts will attend the Alive Service and the Boy Scouts will attend the 11:00 am service. Both have Scouting for Food bags to give out.

On February 15th, both units will march in the 100th year parade down Gervais Street to the State Museum. This should be a lot of fun. Come and cheer us on.

In February, "Duty to God" program starts.

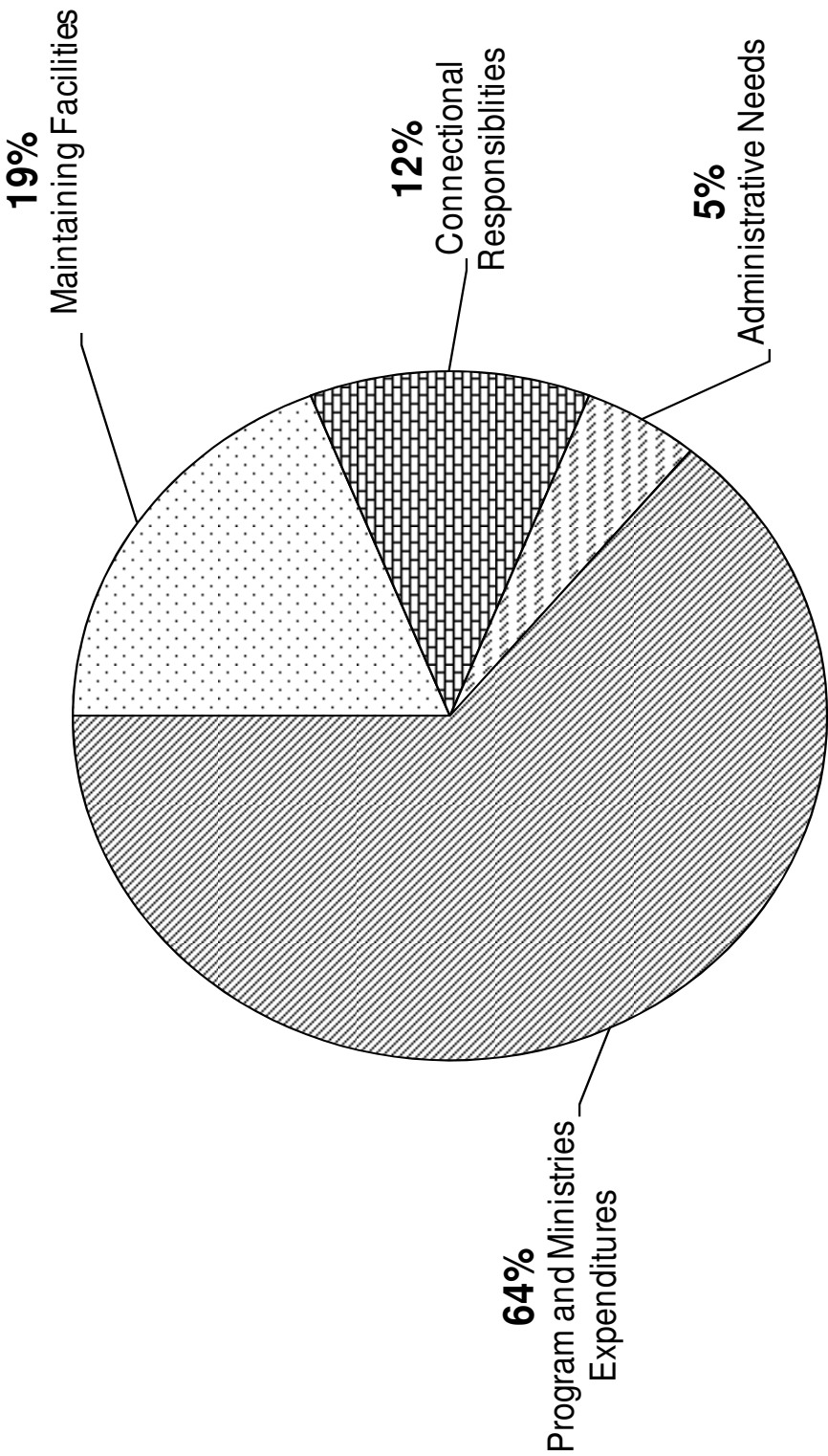
.....Submitted by Gene Clark

## ***IMMEDIATE ATTENTION REQUIRED!***

Your Pastor needs your help in focusing on and prioritizing our efforts in the following two areas:

1. **Full implementation and compliance with the Safe Sanctuary Policy adopted at the October 12, 2008 Charge Conference.** The Asbury Kindergarten and Preschool Program and the Infant and Toddler Nursery Programs are operating properly under the guidelines of "more than one" person taking caring of the children. Also, our VBS and Wild Wacky Wednesday Programs are properly constituted and staffed. We need help in the following areas: (1) Children's Sunday School Classes (K4-5th grade) and the Youth Sunday School Class (6th—12th grade). Also, Kirby could use additional volunteers to help comply with the guidelines for the MYF & WYF gatherings. Again, we need two adults (not related and male/female) so that there is gender balance.  
\* **We need to do background checks on all volunteers involved in the above referenced programs** (again the Asbury Kindergarten and Preschool Program and Scouting Programs are in compliance.) We need all volunteers to sign a form and the appropriate checks will be made through the Conference Center. Let us establish March 1st as the completion date for full compliance.
2. **Natural Church Development.** We need to reconstitute the N.C.D. Health Team (approximately 8 individuals). They will meet and consider those suggested programs and areas of spiritual growth and emphasis that will help us to grow and deepen our **Passionate Spirituality**. Please join your Pastor in prayer that there will be those (those = you!!) that will respond and help guide their church in this critical time.

# Asbury Memorial UMC's Budget: Expenditures for 2010 Ministries and Programs



**\$403,988.00**