

Arapahoe, NC 28510
 8126 NC HWY 306 S
 At the Crossroads



The Bethany Beacon

“Did you not know that I must be in my Father’s house?”

Bethany Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
 Arapahoe, North Carolina 28510
 www.bethanyarapahoe.org

January
 2010

“Finding the Way of Christ at the Crossroads.”

Watson’s Word

By Merritt Watson

This coming Sunday will be the one-year anniversary of moving into our new building. We are still excited by the event. The new has not yet worn off and the thrill of having this wonderful place to worship is still present. As we begin another year in our new building again we thank God for what has transpired. We are ever humbled by the power of God to do far more than we imagined and we confess that God has taken us to heights we did not believe we could attain. Our building will forever be a testimony to this.

But as we have said often before, a building does not a church make. That is God’s doings. And a building will not insure that a congregation will grow spiritually; that it will increase in numbers of people gathered to worship and in numbers of disciples made more into the image of Christ. It is what happens to the lives of people meeting in a new building that determines this. What I am saying is simply this. With God’s help we have built the building. Now again with God’s help let us build up the church.

There is evidence that this also is happening. During 2009 we had five additions by transfer and 10 additions by baptism. Our first Sunday of 2010 was greeted with a baptism and our hope for 2010 is that we will have more additions than we had in 2009. Our average worship attendance for the year was 79. At first glance this is not all that great but it is an increase over the previous year. And I understand, just having a new building helped it to increase. Our hope for 2010 is that worship attendance will grow significantly and if it does, we will all surely have to work at it with greater zeal and personal commitment. We more than met our budget, which is a good thing even if we do not like to talk so much about money in the church. Our planned ministry was built upon receiving \$121,480.00 in gifts and contributions. Actual gifts and contributions reached \$128,843.00 in 2009. We also realized some savings in expected expenses and ended the year with gifts and contributions exceeding expenses. Our congregation was very active in helping and ministering to people during 2009. We thought we could help two families with their Christmases. We wound up helping six families. In addition there were other times through the year we responded to special requests from needy families. We sent military packages to six service personnel. We also participated in the “Shoe box” ministry helping needy children. I can’t remember how many boxes we sent but there were a lot. We received over six thousand dollars in special mission offerings for work done beyond our own congregation. This was over and above the \$2500 we had in our budget for the Disciple Mission Fund. Our Elders and Deacons participated in workshops/retreats for their own spiritual enhancement and growth. We celebrated with an extended time of study and reflection the 200 anniversary of Thomas Campbell’s Declaration and Address. We have been blessed to add to our staff a music director, organist, and also nursery help. We have dedicated Sunday School teachers and an active youth program. All of this and many other things I have not thought to mention are signs of God working in our midst to help us become fully the church God would have us be.

I just ask you to join with us in this exciting venture. You never know what God will do with your life when you make yourself available for his great work.

Just think of the possibilities,
Merritt

REGULARLY SCHEDULED ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

Weekly

Sunday: Sunday School, 9:45 am; Worship, 11:00 am

Tuesday: Chancel Choir—7:00 pm,
 Jericho Ringers - 7:45 pm

Monthly

1st Sunday: Elders, BH, 7:30 am; Official Board, FH, 7:00 pm.

3rd Sunday: CWF/CMF, FH, 6:00 pm.

5th Sunday: Covered Dish Dinner, FH, following worship service.

*Any changes to regularly scheduled activities and events will be noted in the calendar below.

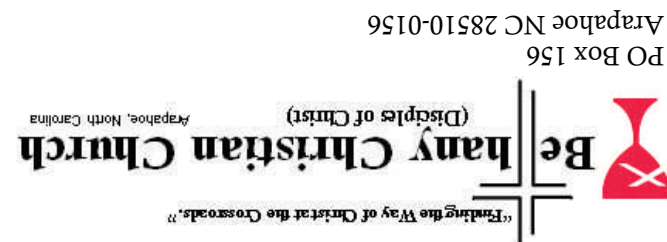
BH=Bethany Hall; FH=Fellowship Hall;
 PL=Parking Lot; S=Sanctuary

In the Life of the Church

January

- 9 Faith Café Oysters @ 5:00
- 11 Communication Comm. 6:30
 AV team @ 7:00
- 15 Pancake Supper by CMF 5-7:00
 \$5 Tickets available Fundraiser for Camp Caroline kitchen
- 17 Diaconate meeting 5:30
 CMF/CWF meeting 6:00
 Youth meeting 4:00
- 21 Worship Committee 7:00
- 25 AV team 7:00
- 31 New Member Dinner

GROUP 5 WANTS TO COLLECT RECIPES FOR A BETHANY COOK-BOOK. SEE PAT STILLEY FOR DETAILS.



Arapahoe NC 28510-0156
 PO Box 156

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
 U.S. FEES AND POSTAGE PAID
 ARAPAHOE NC 28510
 PERMIT NO. 1

<p style="text-align: center;">Serving in</p> <table style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;"><u>January</u></td> <td style="width: 50%;"><u>February</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Elders</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Elders</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Julia Peterson Randy Beeman</td> <td>Mac Harris Buck Jones</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Deacons</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Deacons</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tommy Banks (C) Jack Lee George Vendrick Jennie Adams Annette Aldridge Avery Schmidt</td> <td>John Cannan(C) Terry Cannan Melissa Watson Christine Beeman Janci Cahoon Mark Aaron</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Deaconess</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Deaconess</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Renee Midyette</td> <td>Melissa Watson</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Acolytes</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Acolytes</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lindsey Lee</td> <td>Caleb Schmidt Parker Watson</td> </tr> </table>	<u>January</u>	<u>February</u>	Elders	Elders	Julia Peterson Randy Beeman	Mac Harris Buck Jones	Deacons	Deacons	Tommy Banks (C) Jack Lee George Vendrick Jennie Adams Annette Aldridge Avery Schmidt	John Cannan(C) Terry Cannan Melissa Watson Christine Beeman Janci Cahoon Mark Aaron	Deaconess	Deaconess	Renee Midyette	Melissa Watson	Acolytes	Acolytes	Lindsey Lee	Caleb Schmidt Parker Watson	<p style="text-align: center;">January Birthdays!</p> <table style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <p style="text-align: center;"></p> <p>1 Pat Stilley 4 Shirley Ensley 9 Dale Lewis Ann Oliver 11 Helen Purser 13 Louise Lee 14 David Schmidt 16 Buddy Bennett 18 James Hardison 19 Carol Horne Clara Ensley 21 Lauren Mercer Dora Moritz 22 Troy McCain Linda Watson 25 Bud Bennett Caleb Schmidt 27 Timothy Bennett 31 Steven Cahoon John Harper, Jr.</p> </td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <p style="text-align: center;">February</p> <p>2 Rachel Vendrick Johnny Cowell 3 Harvey Hardison 5 Doug Brinson</p> </td> </tr> </table>	<p style="text-align: center;"></p> <p>1 Pat Stilley 4 Shirley Ensley 9 Dale Lewis Ann Oliver 11 Helen Purser 13 Louise Lee 14 David Schmidt 16 Buddy Bennett 18 James Hardison 19 Carol Horne Clara Ensley 21 Lauren Mercer Dora Moritz 22 Troy McCain Linda Watson 25 Bud Bennett Caleb Schmidt 27 Timothy Bennett 31 Steven Cahoon John Harper, Jr.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">February</p> <p>2 Rachel Vendrick Johnny Cowell 3 Harvey Hardison 5 Doug Brinson</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"> Please Remember in Your Prayers:</p> <table style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;"> Thelma Ankrom Evelyn Beeman John Beeman, Sr. Doris Bell Brandon Bennett Velna Bennett Chad Bishop Betty Blount Malcolm Brinson Floyd Campen Clyde Cowell Mary Cuthrell Bud & Carol Daniels Stephanie Edge Clara Eldridge Herbie Fulford Mildred Fulford Hal Gordon Richard Hall Sue Henry Cathie Hopkins Carol Horne </td> <td style="width: 50%;"> Audrey Humphries Katie Jensen Dale Kirtland Clota Lassiter Elbert Lee Johnnie Leary Tempie Lupton Ellen Ortho Peggy Potter Dorothy Price Rosella Ridings Annette Shaw Chris Sides Cody Simpson Emmett Sugg Mary Ann Sugg Margaret Vendrick Tonya Wainwright Ann Walden Hilda Watson Rex Williams Mary & Herb Willis </td> </tr> </table> <p style="text-align: center;">ADDRESS NEEDED, PLEASE</p>	Thelma Ankrom Evelyn Beeman John Beeman, Sr. Doris Bell Brandon Bennett Velna Bennett Chad Bishop Betty Blount Malcolm Brinson Floyd Campen Clyde Cowell Mary Cuthrell Bud & Carol Daniels Stephanie Edge Clara Eldridge Herbie Fulford Mildred Fulford Hal Gordon Richard Hall Sue Henry Cathie Hopkins Carol Horne	Audrey Humphries Katie Jensen Dale Kirtland Clota Lassiter Elbert Lee Johnnie Leary Tempie Lupton Ellen Ortho Peggy Potter Dorothy Price Rosella Ridings Annette Shaw Chris Sides Cody Simpson Emmett Sugg Mary Ann Sugg Margaret Vendrick Tonya Wainwright Ann Walden Hilda Watson Rex Williams Mary & Herb Willis
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Board Highlights

January 2010

The Official Board of Bethany Christian Church met in the fellowship hall at 7:00 P. M. on Sunday, January 3, 2010, for its regular monthly meeting with 16 present and Vice Chairman, Douglas Cahoon, presiding.

Vice Chairman Cahoon called the meeting to order, and Reverend Watson lit a candle representing God in our midst, followed by comments and prayer.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read by the Clerk and approved with a request by Janci Cahoon for clarification that the new member dinner was a function of the Diaconate, and not the Activities Committee.

Treasurer's Report

Randy Beeman had prepared the Treasurer's Report for December (attached) which was made available to all present.

Elders

John Beeman, Jr. reported for the Elders that they had met this date. One of the things discussed was the fact that none of them knew some of the people on our prayer list. It was decided to put cards in the pews to gather pertinent information and obtain updates on the condition of each person on our prayer list. Reverend Watson prepared the cards following the Elders' meeting and had them in the pews prior to worship services. Also discussed was the upcoming joint meeting of the Elders, Deacons, and Deaconesses. Mr. Beeman announced that Douglas Brinson would serve as Chairman of the Elders again for the next two years.

Diaconate

Christine Beeman said there would be a meeting of the Deacons and Deaconesses on January 17th. She said the New Member Dinner would be discussed at that time.

Activities

Reverend Watson announced for the Christian Men's Fellowship that there would be a pancake supper on January 15th as a fundraiser for Camp Caroline.

Christine Beeman reported good cooperation for the youth's Christmas Play and expressed the hope that it was enjoyed by all in attendance. She said youth activities would start up again on Third Sunday in January.

Property

John Beeman, Jr. reported for the Property Committee that there were still some issues with cold air returns that had been reported to and worked on by the contractor. He planned to go up there himself to see about solving the problem. He also reported that there had been a problem with a bathroom in Bethany Hall which was handled by Reverend Watson. Mr. Beeman told the Board that the representative of Church Mutual of Greensboro was supposed to have personally brought to Chris Watson on this date an insurance policy, binding and assuring coverage on all church property effective on January 3, 2010, even though we have not received an invoice or paid the premium. Another item brought up by Mr. Beeman was the need for inspection of our church van before it could be licensed. Douglas Cahoon said he would take care of it.

Floyd Hardison said that as former Chairman of the Board, he had received some correspondence requesting us, for insurance purposes, to name a driver for the van, or make sure drivers operate in accordance with established Board Rules.

Communications

Jennie Adams reported for the Communications Committee and informed the Board that this committee had voted to replace the office computer. Reverend Watson stated that the CPU was actually the only thing that needed to be replaced.

Outreach Committee

Terry Cannan reported that the Outreach Committee had been busy during November and December. She said 62 Operation Christmas Child boxes and nine Military Care Packages had been shipped. Thank yous had been received from two military men as of this date. In addition, six families had been helped. The Christmas offering totaled \$1,199.00. Mrs. Cannan also reported that bell ringers were provided for the Salvation Army on December 12th.

New Business

Janci Cahoon pointed out that proceeds from the sale of the parsonage had not been moved into an account with Church Extension as previously approved by the Board, and needed to be done.

Vice Chairman Cahoon presented a contract which Eliza Aaron had asked to be signed for cleaning of the church and Bethany Hall during the next year at \$150.00 per week. A motion was made by Floyd Hardison, seconded by Jennie



Bethany Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)
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Minister
Merritt Watson
minister@bethanyarapahoe.org

Board Chairman
Buck Jones

Secretary
Renée Midyette

Choir Director

Sara Spalding

Bell/Chime Choir Director
Roger Bennett

Communications Director

Vision and Mission Statement

Our highest aspiration is to love God with our whole being and to love our neighbors as ourselves.

Our mission is to enable people to know Christ and to strengthen their personal relationships with Him.

The Bethany Beacon

Published on the first Thursday after the first Sunday of each month by Bethany Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
Post Office Box 156, Arapahoe, NC 28510
Jennie Adams, Editor

Bethany News and Views

Board Minutes continued:

Adams, and approved by the Board to sign the contract.

Reverend Watson submitted his Minister's Report for the period of December 7th through January 3rd. The meeting was then adjourned by the Vice Chairman. We formed a circle and closed with comments and prayer by Reverend Watson.

Douglas Cahoon,
Vice Chairman

Clara J. Ensley, Clerk

THANK YOU

Thank you to Bethany Christian church for the car package sent to me at my base. It arrive in just one week of mailing, just before I was moving to another base. Thank you very much.

Maurício Maldonado, US Army

Thank you for helping us in our time of need.

From the little family

Thank you, Roger and Jericho Ringers for your ministry and love in the gift of your music in the playing of hand bells. For me it is a joy and delight to hear. It helps me prepare for Christmas by lifting my spirit. May God bless you all.

John Beeman, Jr.

WE GIVE THANKS FOR THE JOY OF BETHANY'S FIRST CHRISTMAS

WORDS FROM GLADYS

As Gladys Lee finishes her term of office as Secretary to the Treasurer, she would like to thank all members of Bethany Church for their help and cooperation in making her task a pleasure. She encourages each one of us to be just as helpful to Kelli Bailey as she begins the new position. Gladys asks that we help Kelli by using either the envelopes that were received at the beginning of January for our offerings or by putting our assigned number on each check.

SPECIAL K COOKIES from the kitchen of Annette Aldridge

½ Stick of butter and ½ stick of margarine (do not use all butter)
2/3 cup of sugar
1 egg
1 cup of flour
½ tsp salt
½ tsp soda
1 tsp vanilla
2 ½ to 3 cups slightly crushed regular Special K cereal
1 cup of nuts (I use ½ pecans and ½ walnuts)
1 cup semi-sweet chocolate chips

Cream butter, margarine, and sugar. Add egg and vanilla flavoring and mix well. Add flour, salt and soda. Mix well. I use a mixer up to this point and then add a mix other ingredients by hand. Tbsp size scoop should make 2 to 2 ½ dozen cookies. I bake on slightly greased stones, but pans are fine. 375 ° for approximately 16 to 18 minutes. Pans might take a little less time. I have had this recipe many years and it has become the family favorite. I have altered the original recipe from the cereal box by trial and error. Enjoy!

OUTREACH

Chairperson Terry Cannan reports on activities by the Outreach Committee during December:

62 beautifully wrapped boxes were sent to Operation Christmas Child.

9 Military Holiday Care packages were mailed. One soldier received it in only a week.

10 Bethany members ran bells for the Salvation Army on December 12th. Thanks to Terry, John, and Nickey Cannan, Gladys Lee, Dave Netting, Renee Midyette, Kaley Tijerida, Roger and Polly Surprenant, and Johnny Elks.

6 different families were assisted in having a Merrier Christmas by our Bethany family. Two families were showered with gift and food cards. One family received gifts for two small children. One family received a food gift card. One family received help with an electric bill. The last family received a Wal-Mart gift card to purchase gifts for four children.

\$1199.00 was the final amount of Bethany's Special Christmas offering. Terry speaks for the Outreach Committee in expressing great appreciation to the entire church body. She says that "we have truly shown this season that it is more blessed to give than to receive. Thank you, all."