



# Sunrise C.O.B. February '09 Newsletter

Sunrise Church of the Brethren 1496 South Main Street • Harrisonburg, VA 22801

## Inside - At a Glance

*Hosting the Homeless*  
..... Pg. 1

*Church Birthday Celebration*  
..... Pg. 1

*Leadership Team - Mini Minutes (January '09)*  
..... Pg. 2

*Update Regarding Our Planning Process* ..... Pg. 2

*What About a New Organ*  
..... Pg. 3

*Sharing God's Love w/ Others*  
..... Pg. 3

*Pastor's Preaching Schedule*  
..... Pg. 3

*2008 Statistics*  
..... Pg. 3

*February '09 Bulletin Board*  
..... Back Page

## Leadership Team

Judy Buskirk - Chair  
Charlotte French - Moderator  
Judy Ritchie  
Bill Crist  
Phil Buskirk  
Cathy Diehl  
Karen Hedrick - Treasurer  
Terry Coffman - Clerk  
Joyce Hoover  
J.D. Glick - Pastor

## Newsletter Team

Jeff Elliott  
Lisa Coffman

Please send newsletter submissions to Jeff Elliott at [jumbo24@comcast.net](mailto:jumbo24@comcast.net) or call at (540) 896-4861.

## Hosting the Homeless:

Our week for hosting **HARTS** (providing shelter for the homeless) is **February 16-23**. **Sign-up sheets** are on the table in the Entryway for persons to volunteer in the following ways:

- Two or three people are needed to unload and load cots on the two Monday mornings.
- Two people are needed to stay each night (Thursday through Sunday) at the church. This can be either male or female.
- Two people are needed to clean each morning after the guests leave (Friday through Monday).
- One or two people are needed from 6:30 to 8:00 or 8:30 P.M. (Thursday through Sunday) to greet the guests and make coffee upon their arrival.
- People are needed to provide food (main dish, vegetable, salad, bread/rolls or dessert) for the evening meals (Friday through Sunday).

We are partnering with Faith Community Church.

## Church Birthday Celebration:

On February 10, 2002, 100 persons gathered for worship at Eastern Mennonite High School. Persons continued to gather for worship, the group became organized and hired a pastor and the Sunrise Church of the Brethren was born. It was also in February (2005) that the congregation moved into our building on South Main Street.

On **Sunday, February 8**, we will be observing our 7<sup>th</sup> anniversary as a congregation by recognizing those who have reached **milestones** in the past year. There will be a **carry-in meal** following worship (with Sunday School classes cancelled).

Please bring a main dish, vegetable or salad and plan to share in the fellowship of the day. A **birthday cake**, drinks and table service will be provided. A fun "get-acquainted" activity will follow our meal.

## Church Directory:

The **2009 Church Directory** has been published and is available on the table in the Entryway. The Directory includes names, addresses, phone numbers and e-mail addresses, as well as a listing of elected and appointed persons and the 2009 budget. Please pick up a copy for your family.

Contact Sunrise C.O.B. at • (540) 434-1773 • or email us at [jdglick@verizon.net](mailto:jdglick@verizon.net)

On the Worldwide Web at... [www.SunriseCOB.org](http://www.SunriseCOB.org)

## **Leadership Team - Mini Minutes:**

*January, 2009:*

- Heard that the Church's 7<sup>th</sup> anniversary will be celebrated February 8. Sunday School classes will not held that day.
- J.D. will be traveling to China March 3-23. Our guest speakers will be Dan Longenecker (Biblical Storytelling), Sam Funkhouser and Fred Swartz.
- Heard that the Outreach team collected \$1,525.00 for Heifer International.
- Heard that Sunrise Church will host the HARTS group February 16-22. Sign up sheets will be available for set-up, hostess, meals, overnight stay, and clean-up.
- Heard that Adam and Kristi Zirkle have agreed to be our District Disaster Auction representatives.
- Heard that Sunrise Church will collect money for three Sundays in February to make a contribution to the Blue Ridge Food Bank. The denomination will match our donation up to \$500.00.
- Communion will be served on the First Sunday in Lent (March 1) during the morning worship.
- Heard that Bill Crist is the new chair of the Deacons.
- Heard that the organ committee is looking at three companies to review the best quality sound and price and will report to the Leadership team.
- Approved paying an additional \$16,000 on the mortgage principal.

## **Update Regarding Our Planning Process:**

The Master Planning Team met with our Consultant, John Neff, on January 20, to process the input from the congregational planning session in November. The committee looked at the five (5) objectives which received the most support. These included the following:

- plan and develop small groups for discipleship and fellowship,
- launch a mid-week program to serve persons of all ages with a focus of reaching the community,
- plan and implement a Gift and Talent Survey,
- intensify Bible study opportunities,
- plan and organize a Vacation Bible School.

The Planning Team will meet with the Leadership Team in February to recommend which Ministry Teams will be asked to implement these plans.

The Planning Team also looked with John Neff at the parts of our church building which received the most interest in upgrading. These included the following:

- a fellowship hall with kitchen,
- expanded Sunday School and nursery rooms,
- improved restrooms, including handicap accessibility,
- an enlarged gathering space.

The committee is beginning to gather demographics and data regarding our current space in anticipation of a Facility Assessment and Master Plan. Focus Groups are scheduled for Sunday, March 8, for persons to give input regarding our building needs.

## **What About a New Organ:**

Pledges toward the **purchase of a new organ** continue to come in. *To date, 27 pledges have been received for a total of \$15,500.* An additional \$5,430 is available from memorial funds. The Organ Committee has been meeting with representatives from three different manufacturers of organs and will be making their recommendation to the Leadership Team in February.

## Pastor's Preaching Schedule: February 2009

- Feb . 1 "Making Choices"
  - o Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25
- Feb. 8 "On Being All Things to All Persons"
  - o 1 Corinthians 9:16-23
- Feb. 15 "In Training for the Race"
  - o 1 Corinthians 9:24-27
- Feb. 22 "Over the Rainbow"
  - o Genesis 8:20-22, 9:8-17

## Leadership Team - Mini Minutes: December, 2008:

- Heard the Worship and Education Ministry Team report that a committee has been appointed to plan for a Vacation Bible School this coming summer. Committee members include Stephanie Thoma, Lisa Coffman, Kristi Zirkle, Cara Joiner and Gayle Joiner.
- Heard that Mike Grubb will be teaching the Young Adult Class. Also, Sallie Garrison and Diana Scharf will join the teaching staff for the Third-Fifth Grade Class.
- Appointed an Organ Committee of Becky Glick, Shelby May, Karen Bowman and George Donovan to explore the different options available for a new organ.
- Appointed Nancy Lantz to continue to serve as Financial Secretary.

## Sharing God's Love with Others:

Many thanks to the sixty-three persons who on January 18 responded to the discipleship question posed by the Middler Sunday School Class: **"How have you recently shared God's love with others?"**

Here is a tally of those acts of love:

- Shared the Word of God with someone 7
- Prayed with or for someone 4
- Called someone to show support 5
- Sent a card, letter or e-mail to someone 13
- Listened to others' problems 5
- Visited someone who was ill 6
- Assisted a neighbor, friend or family member with a task 14
- Made/gave food or a gift to someone 6
- Did something special with/for family members 6
- Donated money to a charitable organization 3
- Invited someone to church or a meal 4
- Set a good example for others in public 5

Responses are posted on the bulletin board in the Entryway.

## 2008 Statistics:

- During 2008,
- our worship attendance averaged 94 (down 2 from 2007).
  - our Sunday School attendance averaged 50 (up 4),
  - we ended the year with the same number of members as we started (155).

## Collection for the Blue Ridge Food Bank:

You have heard reports in the news of how empty are the shelves of the local food bank. The Outreach Ministry Team has been prompted to ask for your donations to the **Blue Ridge Food Bank** by an announcement that our denomination will **match "dollar-for-dollar" any cash donations** made through a church for a local food bank up to \$500. (This money is coming from the Global Food Crisis Fund and Emergency Disaster Fund.)

Between now and **February 15**, you are invited to make a cash donation. (Make your check payable to *Sunrise Church* and mark it clearly for the Blue Ridge Food Bank.) Remember, your donation will be doubled with the matching funds. Cash donations are better than food donations because the food bank can purchase \$17.00 worth of food for each dollar donated.

1496 South Main Street  
Harrisonburg, VA 22801



### *February '09 Bulletin Board:*

- If interested in being on our **Walk MS** team this year, please contact Cheryl Plank at [plankcm@verizon.net](mailto:plankcm@verizon.net) or 433-1981. The Harrisonburg event will be held on Saturday, April 4, at JMU's Duke Hall. Food and prizes are provided. Your support in the fight against multiple sclerosis is greatly appreciated. The 2008 Sunrise Team is the April photo in the NMSS Blue Ridge Chapter 2009 calendar! Check it out on the table in the entryway.