

Cornerstone United Methodist Church
1411 Rim Road Fayetteville, NC 28314 (910) 868-5686
November 2004 Newsletter

Pastor Kong's Corner

New Wine In A New Bag

Have you considered the spiritual gifts and talents, which God has given to you? What did you do with them? How have you been an effective minister at Cornerstone UMC? The North Carolina Conference New bishop, Al Gwinn, came to Fayetteville District on October 20th at Salem United Methodist Church. Before he expressed his vision and concerns for the mission and ministry of Jesus Christ to lay leaders, he presented the desires in his heart to pastors in Fayetteville District.

The bishop spoke about four areas: Vision, Team Work, American Culture and its ministry, and Integrity. In sharing his vision, the bishop analyzed the structure of local churches. According to his analysis, presently most United Methodist churches have given power and authorities to pastors. A pastor is the one, who receives vision from God and communicates to the congregation in order to accomplish the vision. The pastor usually works with the main church leaders. Therefore, vision has been shared from the pastor to congregation. It is a "top to bottom" structure, a traditional church structure for the United Methodist churches. It is a good structure and has worked well. Is there any better structure for a local church? There is an alternative structure according to the bishop.

The future structure that the bishop wants to have in our North Carolina annual conference is to give power and authority of ministry to lay people, who spend time with God and receive God's vision. In this structure each Christian becomes a visionary person and knows individual gifts, talents, and skills and uses them for building up the body of Christ. In this structure the role of a pastor is to "equip" all saints and become a servant leader, which is very biblically and theologically sound.

I agree with Bishop Al Gwinn. God has given each of us different gifts and talents. It is our duty and obligation to use them to build up the body of Christ.

If you have not been involved in any kind of mission and ministry of Jesus Christ, I, as your pastor, encourage you do so. If you are not sure about your gifts and talents, please, ask members of your family, your church family, or me. Find your gifts and talents. Use them for the glory of God and for the building up the body of Christ at Cornerstone UMC!

It is important for us to use God's gifts for the glory of God. It is very important for the body of Christ to work together and for each other giving glory to the Head of the body, Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. It is vital for God to see our gifts and talents in our lives because God has given them to us to use rather than hiding them under the ground. I see the future of Cornerstone UMC with excitement and joy because we will be IN a New Bag by the grace of God. I pray that we are the New Wine, which is looking for the transformation of our spirituality. Glory be to the Father, to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen

In His Service,
Pastor Kong

Operation Christmas Child

Operation Christmas Child brings joy and hope to children in desperate situations around the world through gift-filled shoeboxes and the Good News of God's love. This program of Samaritan's Purse provides an opportunity for people of all ages to be involved in a simple, hands-on missions project while focusing on the true meaning of Christmas—Jesus Christ, God's greatest gift. Along with shoebox gifts, millions of children are given Gospel booklets in their own language. In 2003, Samaritan's Purse collected over 6.6 million shoebox gifts worldwide and distributed them to children in some 95 countries.

Christmas is about sharing the gift of God's Son, Jesus Christ, with the world. Everyone at Cornerstone can share His love with needy children in Honduras, Kosovo, or another country by taking part in Operation Christmas Child.

On **Saturday, November 13, 2004, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon** we will gather here at Cornerstone for approximately two hours to fill, decorate, label and dedicate your shoeboxes. We will provide

forms, labels, wrapping paper, and refreshments. (Specific time to be announced.)

You should choose items (see back for ideas) for either a girl or boy within the following age categories: 2-4 years old; 5-9 years old; or 10-14 years old. Bring shoebox with items ready to pack and a \$5 check for processing (no cash).

If you can't make it on the 13th, you can complete your shoebox at home and see Caroline Tolley or Laurie Harro for forms. All completed boxes are due at church no later than Sunday, November 14, 2004.

Help spread His love and peace to a world in need by being part of this special Christmas project. What a perfect gift to give in honor of Jesus' birthday!

Recommended Items:

(All items should be new!)

Toys: small cars, balls, dolls, stuffed animals, kazoos, harmonicas, yo-yos, jump ropes, small Etch-A-Sketch[®], toys that light up or make noise (with extra batteries), Slinky[®], etc.

School supplies: pens, pencils and sharpener, crayons or markers, stamps and ink pad sets, coloring books, writing pads or paper, solar calculators, etc.

Hygiene items: toothbrush, toothpaste, mild bar soap (in a plastic bag), comb, washcloth, etc.

Other: hard candy, lollipops, mints, gum, sunglasses, flashlights (with extra batteries), ball caps, socks, T-shirts, toy jewelry, hair clips, watches, small picture books, etc.

DO NOT INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

- Used items
- War-related items: toy guns, knives, etc.
- Chocolate or perishable food items
- Liquids: shampoo, liquid soap, lotion, bubbles, etc.
- Medicines: vitamins, cough drops, ointment, etc.

- Breakable items: mirrors, china dolls, snowglobes, etc.

November Birthdays

11-Jakob Layton
11-Sean Walker
14-Jonathan Ban
15-Karen Rossi
20-Lea Smith
20-Jonathan Thomas
23-Mike Wiggs
23-Luke Smith
26-Neil Tolley
30-Devon Thompson

November Anniversaries

03-Karen & Sean Walker
19-Eric & Tammy Newland
25-Neil & Caroline Tolley
27-Steven & Teresa Tischer

Remember in Your Prayers

Stuart Farris
Eddie Harrigan
David Haskell
Dan Irizarry
Doug Marrs

This is a list of soldiers who are away from their families or civilian contractors. If anyone needs to be added to this list please let me know!

Titus 2

Titus2 Women : Our next meeting will be on Thursday, November 11 from 7-9 at Just Claying Around.

The only cost will be the piece of pottery you choose to paint. They range in price from \$5- \$50.

This might be a creative way to get some Christmas shopping done! Everyone bring an appetizer to share. Childcare will be provided at the church. Just Claying Around is located at McPherson Square on McPherson Church Rd. just across the street from Westwood Shopping Center. This should be a really fun time for everyone !

Chili Cook-Off

3 Bears Chili Cook-off - Our Cornerstone Youth Groups are sponsoring a chili cook-off on Saturday, December 4 at 5:30 pm. All proceeds will go towards our summer mission trip and other youth activities.

Do you think you can cook chili hotter than Bill Corey? Then enter your pot of chili for the "Too Hot" award. Other prizes will be given for "Not Hot Enough" and "Just Right". Are you beginning to see where the 3 Bears come into this? Cost will be \$5 to enter your chili and \$3 per person to eat with a \$10 limit on larger families. Sign up to enter your chili at the Chili Cook-off Table as you leave church today.

Sr. High Youth Group Calendar

Nov 12-14	Pilgrimage
Nov 28	Kickoff Socks, Hats & Mitten Tree Exchange Names for Secret Santa
Dec 4	Host 3 Bears Chili Cook Off & Dinner
Dec 11	Movie Night 7:00 at Church
Dec 19	Christmas Party
Dec 22	Host Christmas Caroling 6:30

Church Council News

The next several church council meetings are very important for Cornerstone. We will work towards recognizing the path God has planned for our church and stepping out to meet Him on the path. ALL council members, please plan to attend!

Nov 14 – Begin 2005 Budget Process
Dec 5

Looking Ahead in Ministry

Sun	4:00pm	"Angel Alert" Christmas Program Practice
Mon		Pastor's Day Off
Tues	5:30-6:30pm	Tae Kwon Do class at church
Wed	10:00am	Gospel of Mark Bible Study w/ Pastor Kong
	11:45-12:30pm	Wednesday Prayer Meeting
	5:30-6:15pm	Wednesday Night Dinner
	6:30-8:00pm	FW Friends Children's Ministry
	6:30-8:00pm	Purpose Driven Life w/ Richard Upchurch
	6:30-8:00pm	Purpose Driven Church w/ Pastor Kong
	6:30-8:00pm	Discovery Bible Study at Church
	6:30-8:00pm	Youth Girl's Class (ages 12-17) w/ Kathy
Schuh		
	6:30-8:00pm	Youth Boy's Class (ages 12-17) w/ Jim
Wilmore		
	7:00pm	Praise Team Practice
Thurs	5:30-6:30pm	Tae Kwon Do class at church
	7:00pm	P.O.I.N.T. MAN Men's Group
		Titus 2 @ "Just Claying Around"!
11/12-11/14		Pilgrimage
11/13	10:00am-noon	"Shoebox" Creating and Dedication Event!
11/14	4:00pm	"Angel Alert" Practice
	6:30pm	Administrative Council Meeting
		Shoeboxes Due at the church
11/21	6:00pm	Thanksgiving Meal with Community
12/4	5:30pm	Chili Cook-Off
12/5	6:30pm	Administrative Council Meeting
12/12	6:00pm	"Angel Alert" Christmas program