

New South

Reaching across Kentucky, Tennessee, the Carolinas & the world, partnering and supporting ministries to share the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Volume 10 - September 2011

Mustering of the Men @ Eagle Ridge

Oct 7th-8th

Promises to be the best ever! **PORK!** Need we say more? Muster up some men and join us for an awesome time of food and fellowship.

Teen Fall Retreat @ Eagle Ridge

Oct 28th -31st

Reconnect with friends, encounter God and just plain have some fun!! Contact Andrea Tinsley for more info.

Fall Ladies Retreat

@ Eagle Ridge

Nov 4-6 \$45/person

Silent Auction, Mission Project, great food, loads of fun!

History & Polity Class offered at Eagle Ridge

Nov 18-19 & Dec 9-10
Taught by Al Buckta

For those who are interested in pursuing CMC contact Al at

ambuckta@juno.com

Two Eagle Ridge Burn the brush days:

Nov 4&5

Nov 11&12

Come out and help us clear the field for our RV lots!

Signs of the Season

Pumpkin pie, changing colors and cooler temperatures are all signs of fall. These are the tastes, smells and the feel of the season.



What's your sign (not your horoscope), the traits that identify you. The Bible says we have signs that identify us.

Dear children, let's not merely say that we love each other; let us show the truth by our actions. Our actions will show that we belong to the truth, *1 John 3:18-19a*

By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." *John 13:35*

Loving others is the sign to the world that we belong to Jesus. The way we treat people is our sign. It's the identifying marks of a Christian.

This sign is expressed in a couple of ways; inside of the church walls and outside of the walls.

Inside the walls is loving the people we worship with each Sunday. It's more than attending a potluck or fellowship meal. It's caring for your brothers and sisters in Christ in a manner that expresses your gratitude to Christ for His love for you.

We understand this and it's easy with about 95% of the people we worship with, but that other 5%, wow, are they tough to love. And how about those outside the walls of the church? Only those like us do we find easy to love and care for, but Jesus doesn't seem to differentiate between the ones inside the church and those outside the walls, easy and tough to love.

"The King will reply, 'I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.' *Matthew 25:40*

This is tough and it doesn't come naturally. But it's our sign. Jesus goes so far to say that we must regularly practice this with the ones that are tough to love. Everyone loves the easy ones to love, but you will be a sign when you love the tough ones.

Ron Balzer, Superintendent New South Conference

Missions Focus

No Church Is Too Small

How easy, how often, how human to equate the size of our church with what it can do for missions. Or maybe better said, what it can't do for missions.

Members of the MEG board were invited to attend Pastor Enrichment this month, and what an opportunity Supt. Ron made available to us as we participated in a 6 hour Global Outreach workshop. This phrase has stuck with me --When the tide comes in, it raises all the boats in the harbor. What a beautiful picture of the ocean lifting up those mud-swamped boats so they can do what they were built to do. And the analogy is clear: when a church seriously gives to missions, giving increases in all areas.

The workshop included many practical ways to fulfill the Great Commission. Let's be a conference that is part of the global church and see how God will bless and use us this year!

Lois Huff, NSC missions promoter

GC11- Great time to be Free Methodist

Our denomination is 150 years old!

General Conference 2011 brought us a new name: **Free Methodist Church USA.**

We have an all new website FMCUSA.org DVD's are available to download of the Keynote speakers at GC11. You will be blessed to hear from our leaders. See their hearts and visions unfold.

Please continue to keep our Bishops and their families in your prayers. **Bishops Matt Thomas, David Kendall and David Roller.** These are wonderful men of God. Pray for their continued blessing as they lead the FMC USA. Pray for guidance, wisdom, and discernment.

Prayer Requests

Patti Fiskeuax secretary at Wilmore FMC broke her wrist and arm and will be out of commission for awhile. Please pray for a quick recovery.

Karin Blythe pastor's wife at Gallatin, First FMC. Dealing with severe allergy issues. Pray for the right combination of meds.

Pastor Tim Steele - Scarborough Memorial, Harriman, TN - cancer, pray for healing.

Pastor Nick Clark former pastor at Irvine FMC -Went to ENT specialist. Has another granuloma. Third one since early 2010. Two removed last year, not sure what they are going to do. Pray for wisdom and guidance for the doctors.

FMX - NSC Young Adults extremely different, extremely devoted, extremely driven

39 Young adults (and some young at hearts) came together to explore ways they can make a difference. They were challenged to get involved loving people and serving God through their own areas of giftedness. It doesn't take a degree or a theologian to be the hands and feet of Jesus!

Coming Events, Mark your Calenders

Now - The harvest fields are ripe

Oct 7-8 Mustering of the Men

Oct 28-30 Teen Fall Retreat

Nov 4-6 Fall Women's Retreat

Feb 3-4, 2012 Pastors & Spouses Retreat @ Cumberland Falls SP

Soon - Jesus is coming back

October is Pastor Appreciation Month

This is a special time that congregations set aside each year to honor their pastors and pastoral families for the hard work, sacrificial dedication and multiple blessings provided by these special people. It is also important to remember that appreciation, affirmation and prayer support of our spiritual leaders is appropriate throughout the entire year.

The nature of the service provided by pastors and their families is unique. God has entrusted to them one of the most precious of assignments — the spiritual well-being of His flock. When a pastor becomes ineffective, the very souls of his or her parishioners are endangered. When eternity is in the balance, we should all be concerned.

Pastors and their families live under incredible pressures. Their lives are played out in a fishbowl, with the entire congregation and community watching their every move. They are expected to have ideal families, to be perfect people, to always be available, to never be down and to have all the answers we need to keep our own lives stable and moving forward. Those are unrealistic expectations to place on anyone, yet most of us are disappointed when a pastor becomes overwhelmed, seems depressed, lets us down or completely burns out.

That's why God has instructed us to recognize His servants. *"The elders who direct the affairs of the church well are worthy of double honor, especially those whose work is preaching and teaching" (1 Timothy 5:17).* The good news is that we can make a difference! PAM is one way we can counter the negative erosion in the lives of our spiritual leaders with the positive affirmation they need.

There are two ways to help your pastors and their families feel appreciated:

1) Figure out what you can do personally to recognize and honor these leaders. A simple card, an invitation to lunch, a promise to pray for them or an offer to babysit, wash a car or mow a lawn make wonderful statements.

2) Share the concept of PAM with others in your congregation and challenge them to join you in some kind of formal planning. You might consider a special service of affirmation, a potluck event or planting a tree in their honor. The sky is the limit!