

# New South

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

Volume 21 - March 2014

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**Ladies Fall Retreat/Girl Talk**

**Check Your Bags @ the Door/More than Gold**

**April 25-27**

**Oak Tree Lodge, Sevierville TN**

**Guest Speaker Linda Clark**

**\$60 registration plus \$78/night for room shared cost**

**Registrations & room cost due by April 9th**

## *What are you a disciple of?*

According to the American Heritage Dictionary: A disciple is one who embraces and assists in spreading the teachings of another. So the question is, who is the other that you embrace and spread the teachings of? Yuck! Do we talk more about the Bible or Rush Limbaugh, the Kingdom of God or UK Basketball. I find myself digging into the IRS tax changes, trying not to miss a code, but when was the last time I looked and studied so intently

the code book for eternity? So what are you a disciple of?

The Bible says that we are Jesus's disciples if we hold to or continue in His teachings (John 8:31). It also says that we are to make other disciples by going to them, leading them to follow Jesus, and teaching them to obey His teachings (Matt. 28:16-20). So we know we are disciples of Jesus if we obey His teachings and teach others to obey the same.

So what are the teachings of Jesus? Jesus sums it up this way, "You must love the LORD your God with all your heart, all

your soul, and all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. A second is equally important: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' The entire law and all the demands of the prophets are based on these two commandments" (Matthew 22:37-40).

Judge for yourself, what are you a disciple of? And pay your taxes.

***Superintendent Ron Balzer,***  
***New South Conference FMCUSA***  
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## Missions Focus

Question: Who in the world is Neddy Dingili?

Answer: She lives in Kenya where, as Bishop Nixon Dingili's wife, she is the first lady of the FMC.

Question: What is her passion?

Answer: The same as our Lord's –widows & orphans, at least I'd say He was passionate about this since the Bible talks about it over & over.

In a recent report from Neddy, she asks the question: Why should you & I care? The answer is obvious from the widows & orphans' standpoint.

They cannot defend themselves –especially in some countries. But what about us? She quotes from the book of James: Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this –to look after orphans & widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world. So to quote Neddy, "The vitality of our relationship with God is connected with how we treat the poor."

Your question may be: How can we, such a small church, really make a difference?

Answer: Let's look at one small church in our conference with a missions promoter who enthusiastically leads the church to reach out. Besides raising over \$2,000 in 2013 for the Angelos, they gave sizable love offerings to the Gomez family, VBS in Egypt, Bibles to other countries, Clear Blue Water, an orphanage in Haiti, and tree planting projects in Ethiopia, Madagascar and Haiti. Local projects include kindness kits for the homeless (and good idea –they carry them in their cars to give out to people standing by the highway with signs), visits to the nursing home with goodie bags, and collecting canned goods and toiletries for distribution in a nearby city. Total given for world care in 2013? \$6,252 with around \$1500 of that being collected on Sunday mornings with their children's contest pitting the girls against the boys by amount collected and also by how much it weighs. (Somebody may be rolling up a lot of pennies.) A big shout out to Lyn Miller and the Scarborough Memorial FMC, Harriman TN! We don't wish to take anything away from their heavenly reward, but we do want to encourage each other according to Romans 12:11: Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor serving the Lord!

**Lois Huff, NSC missions promoter**

## Caretaker/Groundskeeper ERRC

Eagle Ridge Retreat Center is currently seeking person(s) to serve as Caretaker and Groundskeeper. Free housing and utilities serve as remuneration for this ministry opportunity. Qualifications include, but are not limited to, skills in carpentry, electrical, plumbing, small engine repair, building and grounds maintenance. Interested individuals should have a desire for Christian ministry and uphold the mission of ERRC.

Send a resume and letter of interest to:

Supt. Ron Balzer [prb143@mfi.net](mailto:prb143@mfi.net)  
And to Rachel Brown, Chair of ERRC  
[mandrbrown@comcast.net](mailto:mandrbrown@comcast.net)

## Camp Manager for ERRC

Eagle Ridge Retreat Center has hired **Scott & Denise Clark** to fill the position of Camp Managers. We are very happy to have them join the team at Eagle Ridge. Scott is one of our retired pastors. They have been a very valuable part of our camping ministry. Their love for ER is great and they look forward to serving God through our camping ministry.

## NSC 2014 Calendar

### April

- 11 District Leader & MAC Mtg Wilmore
- 12 NSC BOA Mtg Wilmore
- 13 Palm Sunday
- 20 Easter Sunday
- 25-27 Ladies Retreat/Girl Talk Sevierville TN

### May

- 1 National Day of Prayer
- 2-3 NSC Annual Conference Greeneville TN  
Heartland FMC

### June

- 15-22 Teen Camp
- 17 District Leader Meeting at Eagle Ridge
- 18-22 Family Camp combined w/ Teen Camp
- 23-27 Kids Camp

### July

- 5-10 Free Methodist Youth Conference Colorado

## Prayer Requests & Praises

Praise God that **Chris Jenkins, son-in-law of Pastor's Jim & Karin Blythe**, Gallatin has made a miraculous recovery!

Our sympathy to **Shirley Signs** in the loss of both her **husband Dale & son Tom** in the last two months.

Our sympathy to former **Supt. Wayne Neeley & the Dewayne Neeley family of BGKY**, in the loss of wife & mother, **Sherry Neeley**.& prayers are with these families.

Special thanks to the Spring Arbor Univ. students who gave up their spring break to come to our area and pour themselves into serving.

## Prayer Calendar

Please join us as we pray for a different church each week.

- 4/13 New Life BG KY - Don Stevens
- 4/20 Fountain Square BG KY-Roger Ryan
- 4/27 Simmons Chapel, Bradyville TN  
Bobby Wheeler
- 5/4 Fairview, Gainsboro TN - Arthur Yates
- 5/11 Gallatin First, Gallatin TN-Jim Blythe
- 5/18 Heartland, Greenville TN
- 5/25 Scarborough Memorial, Harriman TN
- 6/1 Irvine FMC, Irvine KY-Chris Carlyle
- 6/8 Elkatawa, Jackson KY-Josh Huff
- 8/15 Tri Cities, Johnson City TN-Dustin Morris
- 6/22 Calvary, Lexington KY-Andy Bentz
- 6/29 Breckenridge Chapel, Louisville KY  
John Slider
- 7/6 Bratcher's Cross Roads, McMinnville TN  
Raymond Hillis
- 7/13 Good News Morgantown KY Gene Poole
- 7/20 Murfreesboro First, Murfreesboro TN  
Sean Allen
- 7/27 Murphy FMC, Murphy NC Tim Huff
- 8/3 C180 Rock Hill SC Paul Peterson
- 8/10 New Life Fellowship Scottsville  
Harry Rogers
- 8/17 Smyrna First, Smyrna TN Chris Curry
- 8/24 Forest Chapel Westmoreland TN  
Harold Richards
- 9/1 Wilmore FMC, Wilmore KY Daryl Diddle
- 9/8 The Church, Startex SC Jim Borgman