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ABERNETHY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
AROUND ABERNETHY  
1418 Patton Avenue • Asheville, N.C. 28806-1722

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## ASHEVILLE DISTRICT LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

The Conference will be held Saturday,  
January 9, 2010 beginning at 9:00.

This event will be held at the Asheville-  
Buncombe Technical Community College.

All leaders and committee chairs of Abernethy  
are encouraged to attend. There is something for  
EVERYONE to learn. Please see brochures  
available in the narthex.

Get more info from Katie Warren,  
Program Education Consultant  
kwarren@wnccumc.org (828) 254-8564 ext. 303

Get directions from  
<http://www.abtech.edu/maps/asheville.asp#directions>

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**We Need Your Help With  
winter upon us we need to  
stay warm at the church  
while attending worship,  
meetings, and activities.  
Everyone can help out! We  
can make sure lights are  
turned off, thermostats  
are turned back down,  
doors are completely shut  
and locked. These few  
things will make a big  
difference and keep our  
heating costs down.**

**Thank you for your  
cooperation.**

**Finance Chair, Ann Davis.**

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# AROUND ABERNETHY

A publication of Abernethy United Methodist Church  
Pastor: Rev. Tony Sayer  
1418 Patton Avenue, Asheville, N.C. 28806-1722 • Phone (828) 254-2612  
www.abernethy.org  
Pastor email: sayer.tony@yahoo.com  
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January 2010

**Our  
deepest sympathy  
is extended to:**

~

Dana Phipps  
for the loss of her  
grandmother

~

Also to the  
Herndon family,  
for the loss of  
Norburn.

~

Our love and prayers  
are with you.

*Your Abernethy  
family.*



**Bless  
You!!!!**

For all of you who  
opened your hearts  
this Christmas season.

Abernethy came  
together and helped  
12 families from  
Johnston Elementary  
School

## FROM THE PASTOR:

“You crown the year with your goodness” (Psalm 65:11). These words appear in a psalm that celebrates the richness and abundance of creation and the ways in which God lovingly provides for us.

We could apply these words to the year just past at Abernethy. In some ways it was a challenging and difficult year. In particular, death claimed too many old friends and long-established members of the church. But even in grief we acknowledge that love’s claim is stronger than death, and we move forward.

As we look back over 2009 we have much to be thankful for. We gained some wonderful new members. We began new Sunday School and Bible study classes. We continued and expanded our involvement in missions both locally and globally. Despite a difficult economy, thanks to your generous giving we met our financial obligations. We made much-needed improvements to our facilities, most notably air conditioning and additional heating in our sanctuary. This brief summary doesn’t even mention the year’s big events – for me, the two that immediately come to mind are the benefit for Jake and the “Original Christmas Feast.”

By now some of you are thinking, “But you didn’t mention this” or “You forgot about that.” Yes, I know, but I don’t have time or room to list all the good things that happened this year. It is enough that we hold them in our hearts.

God has crowned this year past with his goodness, and God will do the same with the new year we are just beginning. Thanks be to God.

*Peace, Tony*

## MUSIC NOTES:

**EXCELLENCE -- highest or finest quality; superiority; exceptionally good; superb.**

Who would not be pleased to have someone say of their music ministry, “It is excellent”? Or who would not like to be able to say about oneself, “I did an excellent job at that,” or say to the choir or congregation, “That was truly excellent singing”?

In the church we like to say, “God deserves our very best. In all our worship and music, we must strive for excellence.” It is a worthy goal. Unfortunately we don’t always succeed. We come up short. We may even do poorly. We play wrong notes on the organ. Our voice breaks on the high note. We forget the words. We cue the choir a beat early or lose our place in the score. The sound system quits working in the middle of the sermon. The band just didn’t get enough rehearsal time. The PowerPoint is always five seconds late with the next screen.

The result is certainly less than excellent. It may be bad, poor, ineffective, regrettable, inferior, mediocre, or dreadful. These qualities in worship and music, however, are not the biggest obstacles to excellence in worship. The bad and mediocre can be corrected, perhaps with rehearsal, new people, or some training or continuing education.

Continued inside

## WE PRAY TOGETHER

Let us keep the following persons in our prayer for Healing, Health and Wellness.

Dana Phipps

The Herndon Family

Donna Frazier

Jean Bell

Betty and Lloyd Smith

Jean Steele

(Arnelle Poore's sister)

Mary Dalton

Howard Reynolds

## Memorials

### In memory of Neil Culbertson:

Martha and Ronnie Lowe,  
Lucile Haney

### In memory of Bob Fisher:

Martha and Ronnie

### In memory of Sherman Morris:

Martha and Ronnie

### In memory of Norburn Herndon:

Martha and Ronnie,  
Troop 415  
Mecklenburg Council

### In memory of Helen Taylor:

Peggy Shelton

Continued from front.

The real obstacle to excellence in worship and music is GOOD worship and music; that is, worship and music that manages to contribute to and support the congregation, but without calling attention to itself because of its inferiority or superiority. It is worship that is passable. It ALLOWS people to worship. It is music that DOESN'T GET IN THE WAY of worship. It HELPS people to worship in the sanctuary without any effect on their daily

lives. It CONTRIBUTES to good feelings at church, but without the hassles of being transformed by the Spirit.

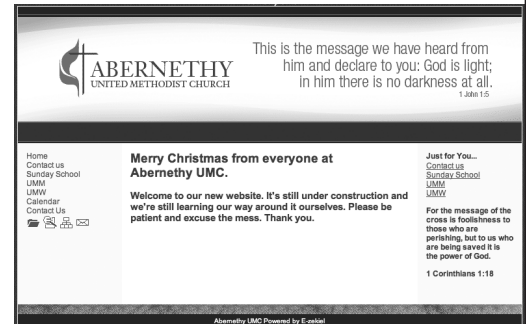
May we never be found guilty of leading merely good worship. May we never limit our striving to the good. May we look, with St. Paul at the end of 1st Corinthians 12, for that more excellent way.

*Thanks you,  
Jeff Gonce*

## TAKE A LOOK AT Abernethy.org

We've moved our web hosting to a much better service. It not only has a new look, but many more features that will make it much easier to manage and update. Right now it's still pretty basic as we continue to learn our way around all of the possibilities, but soon we will have many of these features active:

- Polls that you can take part in to help our church learn about what our congregation, and anyone who visits our site, has to say.
- A full on-line calendar
- Specific web pages that groups like UMM or UMW, etc., can keep up-to-date from any computer with internet access.



We'll have more features up as we learn about them. In the mean time, please visit the new site.

If you are interested in making updates for your group, let me know and we'll try to get you started.

*Richard*  
rpsalais@bellsouth.net

## B.E.A.R. Closet II News!

Wednesday, January 6, 2010 is our next open date. We helped 12 families last month. We need your help. Through this ministry we have been able to effectively reach out to needy families in our community who need help in

providing for their babies and young children's needs. Thank God and thank all of you.

Please join us at the next BEAR Closet II open date. In God's love, we wish you all a happy and healthy New Year!

*Nancy Moore, 254-9102.*

# JANUARY AROUND ABERNETHY

## JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

1. Marion Ellis
3. Michelle Anderson,  
Margaret Fawcett,  
Justin Morris
5. Joretta Wallin
6. Luke Chrisawn
7. Laura Bishop
8. Wally Culbertson,  
Ashley Dover
10. Donna Bateman,  
Christy Gowda
11. Joshua Freeland,  
Nick Parham
12. Shane Cook
13. Thomas Landes,  
Kevin Peterson
18. Phyllis Gardner
20. Reeves Bridges,  
Darla Freeland,  
Debra Luther
21. Tommy Ellison,  
Mead Walker
22. Jacob Freeland,  
Bertha Ramsey
24. Lucille Gunter
28. Matt Fawcett
29. Amelia Gabriel,  
Betty R. Smith

## JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

1. Kristina & Paul Toliver
7. Marion & Mark Gooley
23. Jean & Jack Bell
29. Joyce & Billy Spradley

2010 Calendars  
from the  
AM Group and  
Pecans from  
the JOY Band  
are still available.  
Contact any  
members for  
purchase.

## JANUARY DATES AT PRINTING:

- JAN 1st - New Years Day. Happy New Year.  
 JAN 2nd - 8 pm - AA  
 JAN 4th - 6:15 pm - Disciple Bible Study  
 JAN 5th - 9am - 1pm - Dandelion Hill  
 7 pm - Boy Scouts  
 JAN 6th - 9am - 1pm - Dandelion Hill  
 12 - 6pm - BEAR Closet II  
 7 pm - Chancel Choir  
 8 pm - AA  
 JAN 7th - 9am - 1pm - Dandelion Hill  
 9:30 am - Yarn winders  
 10 am - Bulletin deadline  
 6:30 pm - Area Ministries  
 7 pm - Cub Scouts  
 JAN 9th - 8 pm - AA  
 9am - Asheville District Leadership  
 Conference  
 JAN 10th - 8 am - UMM Breakfast  
 5:30 pm - Trustees Meeting  
 JAN 11th - 6:15 pm - Disciple Bible Study  
 JAN 12th - 9am - 1pm - Dandelion Hill  
 6:30 pm - Finance Meeting  
 7 pm - Boy Scouts  
 JAN 13th - 9am - 1pm - Dandelion Hill  
 7 pm - Chancel Choir  
 8 pm - AA  
 JAN 14th - 9am - 1pm - Dandelion Hill  
 9:30 am - Yarn winders  
 10 am - Bulletin deadline  
 6:30 - Administrative Board  
 7 pm - Cub Scouts  
 JAN 16th - 9 am - Trustee workday  
 5:30 pm - Ladies on the G.O.  
 8 pm - AA  
 JAN 18th - 6:15 pm - Disciple Bible Study  
 JAN 19th - 9am - 1pm - Dandelion Hill  
 7 pm - Boy Scouts  
 JAN 20th - 9am - 1pm - Dandelion Hill  
 7 pm - Chancel Choir  
 8 pm - AA  
 JAN 21st - 9am - 1pm - Dandelion Hill  
 9:30 am - Yarn winders  
 10 am - Bulletin deadline  
 7 pm - Cub Scouts  
 JAN 23rd - 8 pm - AA  
 JAN 24th - 12 noon after service - JOY Band  
 JAN 25th - 6pm - Men's Supper Group  
 6:15 pm - Disciple Bible Study  
 JAN 26th - 9am - 1pm - Dandelion Hill  
 7 pm - Boy Scouts  
 JAN 27th - 9am - 1pm - Dandelion Hill  
 7 pm - Chancel Choir  
 8 pm - AA  
 JAN 28th - 9am - 1pm - Dandelion Hill  
 9:30 am - Yarn winders  
 10 am - Bulletin deadline  
 12 - Happy Abernethy  
 7 pm - Cub Scouts  
 JAN 30th - 8 pm - AA

## REGULAR SERVICE TIME

- 9:30 am - Coffee in Fellowship Hall  
 9:45 am - Sunday School  
 10:45 am - Gathering Music  
 11 am - Worship  
 5:30 pm - United Methodist Youth

## Church Office Hours:

Mon - Fri 8:30am - 12 pm

## DURING INCLEMENT WEATHER

Please call the church office and listen to the voice mail for information about services or activities. Also, it will be posted on the local WLOS Channel 3 station.

## REMEMBER TO BRING CANNED FOOD FOR ABCCM.

**Canned meats, stews, and canned fruit are especially appreciated at this time of year, but any offering is welcome. Place your contributions in the basket in the narthex.**

## Meetings quick reference:

- No AM Group meeting in January  
 No JOY Band meetings in February or March  
 No yoga until further notice

## BUDGET Nov. 29- Dec 13

Offering: ..... \$11,587.79  
 ABCCM:..... \$453  
 MANNA Back Packs:..... \$240  
 Memorial: ..... \$50  
 Quilt Ministry: ..... \$15  
 Lazarus:..... \$23