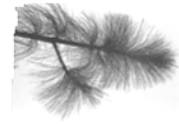




The Evergreen Bough



Volume II, No. 2, February, 2007

A monthly newsletter for the congregation and friends of Evergreen UMC

“People will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will *never* forget how you made them feel”—*Maya Angelou*

Dear Evergreen,

I know it seems like Christmas was yesterday, but the season of Lent is right around the corner. I invite you to begin praying about how you will prepare for Easter this year. The worship team and I are making preparations for our Lenten worship and Easter celebration. We invite your prayers for us in this process.

Within this issue of the "Bough" are several things of which to take note. First, I'm so very thankful for God's blessings in your life. Your willingness to honor God in tithes and offerings last year was uplifting. We received a record giving. This year is an opportunity to build upon that spiritual discipline. Our promise to support God's ministry here at Evergreen includes our prayers, presence, gifts and service. Please help us stay ahead of our basic financial needs. God gives to us freely and abundantly. Let us offer God's ministry to our community in the same manner.

Secondly, please note the pancake supper fund-raiser for our Relay for Life team. That is one of our most effective ministries and outreaches at Evergreen. Please support all the giving opportunities for this ministry.

Finally, I invite you to be in prayer for the leaders of our Church. This is an important year in the life of Evergreen. Our Brothers and Sisters are prayerfully seeking God's will for all parts of our gathered Body of Christ. Support them in their discernment, follow them in their authority, and love them as God loves us.

Peace,
Pastor Jeff

Financial, Annual Summary

2006 final results--

General Fund Opening Balance	\$304.63
2006 Receipts	\$172,984.83
2006 Expenses	\$171,260.79
General Fund Closing Balance	\$2,028.67

We had to maintain a positive closing balance in order to pay the parsonage rent of \$1,100 that was due on January 1 and had to be paid out of the checking account at the end of December.

We paid \$17,357.91 towards our apportionments total of \$20,315. We fell short in the obligation by \$2,777. This is the second year in a row that we were unable to pay our obligation to conference and worldwide missions.

Average weekly giving for 2006 was \$3,075.31 compared to the 2005 weekly average of \$2,856.28

January 2007 Results--

Receipts for the four weeks of January totaled \$11,023.02 while regular monthly expenses totaled \$12,731.98 for a monthly deficit of \$1,708.96. Deducting the January deficit from the general fund opening balance of \$2,028.67 leaves an ending balance of \$319.71 in the general fund as of January 31, 2007. The leaves us \$780 short for paying the parsonage rent that is due on February 1.

Average weekly giving for the four weeks of January was only \$2,755.75, well short of our 2006 weekly average and less than our 2005 weekly average. ***Please help us to be able to meet our February and future obligations by staying current with your offerings.***

Robbie Dircks

Please return your pledge cards

Worship Schedule:

"Early at the E": 9:00 am (Contemporary Worship)

Sunday School: 9:30 am

Worship: 10:30 am

"The Connection" 6:00pm Contemporary Worship/Singing/Preaching/Testimony

Christian Education

One of the foundations of the Church is to teach everyone from the "not walking and talking" to our most wise how to walk in the way of Jesus Christ. We are excited to say that here at Evergreen we want to do just that! We have formed a board that will help organize, develop, and inspire Christian Education. This board will help Christian Education by strengthening and enhancing training and support for our teachers, creating an environment appealing for all ages, and nurturing development where ever you are in your walk with Jesus. This ministry is crucial to the development of believers. It includes Sunday School, UMYF, Children's Church, Bible studies, and the nursery. If you want to hear more about it, please contact Viki, Jeff, or myself.

Stephanie Griffin

Fat Tuesday Pancake Supper

February 20, 5 to 8 pm

Please join us for fun, music, food and door prizes. Support the Evergreen Relay for Life Team and the American Cancer Society.

"We can make the cure for cancer a reality!"

Anna Nicholson

Knitting/Crocheting Ministry

Holy Hookers

Evergreen's Fiber Artists meet the second Tuesday of the month at 6pm at Evergreen. Bring your knit, crochet or needlework project and enjoy the fellowship.

Anna Nicholson

Food Pantry:

Please donate your Lowe's green points to the Food Pantry for items we can't get at the food warehouse. If you have 3000 points or more, you can donate them to Evergreen by calling 1-800-435-5674. Ask that your points be transfer-red to account 4202 2751 6625. You will need to give your account number from the back of your Lowe's card.

Carolyn Watterson

Evergreen website:

(www.evergreen-umc.org).

You'll really love it!!!

Bough Editors: Mary Kay and Herman

Intern Update - Covenant Discipleship

Victoria Shields

Please see separate sheet

*Happy Valentines Day
(Feb.14)*