

We want to thank our Ebenezer family for all the prayer and support that we have received as a family in the home going of our step-mother and grandmother, Marcele Diller. This has been a bittersweet experience with the mingling of sorrow, joy, and victory. We want to give special thanks to Pastor Dick, Pastor Warren, and Kathy, who were so faithful in walking with us through the entire process. Our God has been loving and faithful. – *Jim, Nancy, and Rachel Diller*

Financial Report – October 2008

Giving & Expenses

	General Fund	Missions Fund	C. E. Fund	Building Fund
Budgeted YTD	322,096	160,833	29,917	42,817
Expenses YTD	291,940	154,360	25,929	18,765
Actual Income	298,457	157,314	29,628	17,603

Cash Fund Balances as of 10/31/08:

General	\$19,933
Missions.....	\$33,926
Christian Education	\$14,319
Building.....	\$9,148
New Building	* \$143,486
Benevolent.....	** (\$394)

Year-end Giving Opportunities & Challenges

Beginning next Sunday, December 7, there will be opportunity to give special monetary gifts to assist in purchasing material and equipment to prepare and enhance the worship atmosphere in the Crossroads Ministry Center. Please mark your giving envelopes **Transition Equipment**.

* During November, \$156,931 was paid on our construction loan, leaving a balance due of only \$60,000!

** The deacons have been able to help several families in need during the past year and have exhausted the benevolent funds designated for this purpose.

Thank you for praying as I leave for India and the 40th anniversary of the Delhi Bible Fellowship Church in New Delhi! Beth Baker, my daughter, will accompany me as we leave from Peoria Airport (Illinois) to Chicago and fly directly to Delhi, India (15 hour flight) on December 11, 12. November 29, 30, I am in Urbana, IL, to officiate a Betrothal Ceremony for an Indian couple whose family attended our church in India. I am very sorry to miss the Christmas celebrations here, but thankful to be in India for Christmas with my family and Indian Christian friends! Thanking God for you and your encouragement through prayers, cards, and gifts given! – *Pastor Warren*

Notice: The annual December congregational meeting to elect officers is scheduled for Wednesday, December 10, at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. All other Wednesday evening activities (except Adult Choir Rehearsal will follow the meeting) will be cancelled for December 10. The annual elections for deacons, trustees, president, secretary, assistant secretary, nominating committee, constitution revision committee, head usher, and ushers will be held.

Nominees for Elected Offices for 2009

Deacons:	Frank Boehm Marvin Foster	Ron Epp Don Leader Bart Moser	
Trustees:	Seth Bixel Ronald Koontz	Dennis Burkholder Bob Spallinger	
President:	Greg Kidd	Jed Marquart	
Secretary:	Rosie Good	Sarah Lehman	
Assistant Secretary:	Kelli Foster	Nancy Wright	
Nominating Committee:	Sue Epp Joyce Reigle	David Ream Julie Steiner	
Constitution Revision Committee:	Vickie Cartwright Ralph Gerber	Arlene Garmatter David Miller	
Head Usher:	Randy Garmatter	Ron Steiner	
Ushers:	Keith Bates Randy Forrer Randy Garmatter Alan Hefner Russell Koontz Bob Spallinger	Mike Biery Alan Garmatter Richard Garmatter Corky Huffman Larry Moser Bill Steiner	Jerry Cartwright David Garmatter John Good Don Kirkendall Mike Powell Ron Steiner



Ebenezer
Emissary Weekly
November 30, 2008

Opportunities of the Day

- 9:30 a.m.** Adult Bible Fellowship
Sunday School (2-year-olds – High School)
- 10:30 a.m.** Worship Gathering (CMC)
Children's Church (2 & 3-year-olds, 106)
- 11:30 p.m.** ABF Class Officers/Leaders Meeting (FH)
- 7:00 p.m.** Christmas Praise & Worship Service (Sanctuary)
Cherub Choir (2-year-old – K, Room 105)
Children's Choir (Grades 1-6, Rooms 118&119)
Junior & Senior High School Small Groups
- 8:00 p.m.** Afterglow (please bring Christmas goodies to share, CMC)

Flowers in the Crossroads Ministry Center are in honor of Jonica, Jessica, Melody, and Aaron Schmutz all being together this last holiday before Aaron leaves for Afghanistan. Please pray for Aaron and his family as he prepares to leave on December 16. – *Love, Jim & Mom*

Children's Church Notice: Today there will be Children's Church for 2 & 3-year-olds only. Because of the lack of Children's Church teachers during the second service several of the classes have been cancelled. Please check your bulletin each Sunday. We are sorry for this inconvenience. We want to continue this ministry, but without teachers it is difficult to do so. Please prayerfully consider teaching one Sunday. If anyone would like to fill this need please contact the church office or Joan Steiner at 419-358-0486.

Christmas Praise Night: Please join us tonight at 7:00 as we gather in the Sanctuary for a beautiful and reflective Christmas Praise and Worship Service led by our Worship Team. As we join voices and sing many of our favorite traditional Christmas carols, this service will usher in the joyous celebration of the time when Jesus came to the earth in the form of a baby. Please bring your favorite Christmas goodies to share at a special Christmas afterglow.

Attendance and Giving

Attendance on November 17:		
Missions Conference	(7:00 p.m.)	142
Attendance on November 18:		
Missions Conference	(7:00 p.m.)	135
Attendance on November 19:		
Missions Conference	(7:00 p.m.)	165
Attendance on November 21:		
Families for Missions Dinner	(6:00 p.m.)	
Attendance on November 23:		
Contemporary Worship Service	(8:15 a.m.)	162
Sunday School & ABF	(9:30 a.m.)	311
Traditional Worship Service	(10:30 a.m.)	282
Missions Conference	(7:00 p.m.)	187
Giving on November 23:		<u>\$12,530.47</u>
Benevolent Fund		145.00
Building Fund		510.00
Christian Education Fund		529.84
Current Expense Fund		6,768.63
Missions Fund		2,132.00
New Building Fund		2,445.00

Congratulations to Joshua & Heidi Steiner on the birth of their son, Wilson Ronald, on Tuesday, November 25, weighing 2 lb. 15 oz.

Congratulations to Ben & Becky Gambrell on the birth of their daughter, Esther Sophia, on Thursday, November 27, weighing 6 lb. 13 oz.

In the Hospital: Heidi and Wilson Steiner, St. Vincent's Medical Center in Toledo.

Recent Moves: Geraldine Bucher and Mary Avon Sommers, Mennonite Memorial Home.

Scheduled Surgery: Mark Kinsinger - Tuesday, December 2, Blanchard Valley Hospital.

Today, after the Worship Gathering, the Adult Bible Fellowship class officers/leaders will be meeting for a brief informational meeting in the Fellowship Hall (Rooms 112-114). This regards how the ABF classes will be handling the extended part of the class time starting in January, emphasizing how we plan to encourage *Caring* for each other and *Reaching* others for Christ.

Anniversary Open House: Please join Kathy & Jack Adair in celebration of their fifty years of marriage today from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. in the Crossroads Ministry Center. An informal Open House is being held to honor this special occasion. No gifts please.

Opportunities of the Week: December 1-7

Monday- Friday 7:30 a.m. - Walking Program – CMC

Monday	6:30 p.m.	Ladies' Walking Program
Tuesday	6:15 a.m.	Men's Bible Study (FH)
	6:30 p.m.	Ladies' Walking Program
	7:00 p.m.	Missions Committee Meeting (B14)
Wednesday	9:00 a.m.	Game Time (FH)
	6:00 p.m.	Wednesday Night Supper (CMC)
	6:30 p.m.	Worship Team Rehearsal (Choir Room)
	7:00 p.m.	Adult Choir Rehearsal (Choir Loft)
		Adult Bible Study & Prayer (112)
		Children's Ministry (ages 2-grade 6)
		Ladies' Bible Study (B17)
		Men's Bible Study (115)
		Prayer Group Meet (114)
		Small Group Meet (Pastor Jim's home)
Thursday	6:30 p.m.	Ladies' Walking Program
	7:00 p.m.	Ladies' Reading Fellowship (Kathy Steiner's home)
		Singles' Bible Study (at Jim Diller's home)
Saturday	9:32 a.m.	Christmas Tea (CMC)
	5:30 p.m.	Ambassador/Berean Christmas Potluck Supper (CMC)
	7:00 p.m.	Maranatha ABF CLASS (Lima Rescue Home)
Sunday	12:00 p.m.	College Student Meal (FH)
	4:00 p.m.	Messiah (BU, no Evening Service here)

Nursery workers for next Sunday, December 7

Crystal Badertscher, Janet Brauen, Arlene Garmatter, Melissa Hilty, Gail, Quinn, Madison, & Ariel Schantz, Bev Stockman

Missionaries of the Week: Dave & JoAnn Loewen serve with SEND International and live in Michigan. Dave is US Personnel Director. JoAnn has been working with applicants who sense that God is leading them to the mission field. Our heart is to see the Gospel spread throughout the four regions where SEND works. We are enabling that task as we help missionaries stay in their places and help them be effective in their jobs. The Loewens e-mail address is dloewen@send.org.

TODAY'S GREETERS

Richard & Gera Bixel, Sanctuary Foyer
Dave & Lora Basinger, Missions Center
Ben & Angela Carman, Crossroads Ministry Center

2009 Faith Promise Update: The total amount of faith promises received to date towards our 2009 missions budget is at \$172,405 towards our goal of \$185,000. Additional cards (which are located on the tables in the Missions Center and Foyers) may be completed and turned in to the Church Office through the end of the year.

Youth Cheese Sale: Orders will be taken until next Sunday, December 7. Delivery is on Sunday, December 14. Stop by the table in the Missions Center to place your order.

Prayer Team Commitments: You may still sign up to be part of one or more prayer teams (church leadership, families, missionaries, outreach, and student ministries). Additional blue forms are available on the Prayer Table in the Missions Center and in your Adult Bible Fellowship today. Thank you to those who have already indicated your desire to join the various prayer teams beginning January 1, 2009.

Prayer Group: Join us on at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday in Room 114 for another time of scripture meditation, praise, prayer requests, and prayer. This week's special prayer emphasis will be our upcoming *Church Elections/Church Leaders/Women's Ministries/Church Stewardship*. This prayer gathering is led by the Prayer Action Team and is open to everyone.

Ladies, you and your friends are invited to the annual **Christmas Tea** next Saturday, December 6, at 9:32 a.m. in the Crossroads Ministry Center. This year we have *Witness* entertaining us. Please bring your own tea cup. We will have extra cups to share if you do not have one. A free will offering will be collected. Sign up on the Missions Center bulletin board if you plan to attend or check the appropriate box on the green EMC Communication Card.

The Trustees (with the concurrence of the Deacons) have decided to sell the parsonage. The parsonage is being offered to current members/attendees of the church in its current condition (as-is) at the appraised price. Contact any Trustee for more information.

Dear Church Family: We wish to thank each of you for your prayers, cards, and words of encouragement during the time of Al's diagnosis, treatments, and his recent surgery. Also, thanks to Pastor Potter, Pastor Warren, and Kathy Brauen for being with us the day of surgery. With love and appreciation – *Al & Carolyn Frysinger*