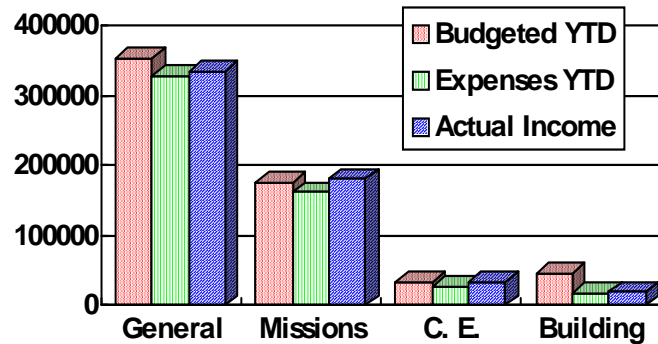


Financial Report – November 2008

Giving & Expenses

	General Fund	Missions Fund	C. E. Fund	Building Fund
Budgeted YTD	354,305	176,917	32,908	47,098
Expenses YTD	327,937	161,682	27,436	18,765
Actual Income	334,371	180,953	33,571	19,423



Cash Fund Balances as of 11/30/08:

General	\$19,851
Missions	* \$50,244
Christian Education	\$16,755
Building	\$10,968
New Building	** \$4,517
Benevolent	\$460

* In early December, \$35,900 was paid in quarterly missions payments.

** Through last Sunday, \$11,475 has been given to the New Building Fund since our last payment in mid-November. All funds received for this fund will be paid towards the ongoing debt (presently at \$60,000) before December 31, 2008.

New Service Times - Beginning January 4, 2009
 Sunday School/Adult Bible Fellowship 9:00 – 10:00 a.m.
 Worship Gathering 10:15 – 11:15 a.m.

▶ UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES ◀

- Jan. 3** Potter's Clay Class (7:00 p.m., Lima Rescue Home)
- Jan. 10** Men's Fellowship Breakfast (7:30 a.m., FH)
- Jan. 12** **MOPS** (9:00 a.m., FH)
- Jan. 18** Chili Festival (5:00 p.m., CMC)
- Jan. 26** **MOPS** (9:00 a.m., FH)
- Jan. 30-Feb.1** Senior High Winter Retreat (Miracle Camp)
- Feb. 7** Living Faith Class (7:00 p.m., Lima Rescue Home)
- Feb. 14** Men's Fellowship Breakfast (7:30 a.m., FH)
- Feb.20-22** Junior High Winter Retreat (Miracle Camp)
- Mar. 7** Senior High/Agape Class (7:00 p.m., Lima Rescue Home)
- Mar. 14** Men's Fellowship Breakfast (7:30 a.m., FH)
- Apr. 4** Ambassador Class (7:00 p.m., Lima Rescue Home)
- Apr. 18** Wild Game Event (5:00 p.m., CMC)
- May 2** Berean Class (7:00 p.m., Lima Rescue Home)

Sunday School/Adult Bible Fellowship Class Locations Beginning Sunday, January 4, 2009

Room	Group
111.....	Infant Nursery
105-106	Toddler Nursery
Sanctuary 4.....	2-year-olds
B-15.....	5-Year-Old
B-16.....	Grade 1
B-18.....	Grade 2
B-14.....	Grade 3
B-13.....	Grade 4
B-12.....	Grade 5
B-17.....	Grade 6
B-11.....	Grades 7-8 Junior High
School House	Grades 9-12 Senior High
103-104	College & Career (Agape)
Sanctuary 1-3	Genesis
Sanctuary.....	Maranatha Class
117 (CMC).....	Living Faith, SALT, Potters Clay
118-119	Berean
112-114 (FH)	Ambassador Class



Ebenezer

Emissary Weekly
December 21, 2008

Merry Christmas!

Opportunities of the Day

- 9:20 a.m.** Children's Choir Meet (*Grades 1-6, Rooms 118&119*)
- 10:00 a.m.** Christmas Worship Service (*CMC*)
Children's Church (*2-5-year-olds, Room 106*)
- 5:00 p.m.** Trustee Meeting (*FH*)
- 6:15 p.m.** Children's Choir Meet (*Grades 1-6, Rooms 118&119*)
- 6:45 p.m.** Cherub Choir Meet (*2-year-old – K, Room 105*)
- 7:00 p.m.** Children's Christmas Program (*CMC*)
Junior & Senior High School Small Groups

There will be Children's Church today for 2-5-year-olds in Room 106.

Our Sympathy to the family of Robert Reigle. Robert, the brother of Jack and Marvin, passed away on Friday, December 12. Funeral services were held on Tuesday, December 16, at the Emmanuel United Church of Christ.

Ebenezer Cherub and Children's Choirs present their Christmas Program tonight at 7:00 in the Crossroads Ministry Center. Please join us and if you are able to bring cupcakes for the afterglow please call Ginny Moser at 419-659-4191.

In the Hospital: Jason Shen and Will Steiner at St. Rita's Medical Center.

Missionaries of the Week: Fred & Dorothy McGinley serve in **Ethiopia, East Africa** with **SIM USA**. Fred maintains all the equipment at the print shop. He is also teaching one young man how to do this. In the print shop they are printing book pages for Pastor's Book Sets. These books will be going to 10,000 pastors all over Ethiopia - tools to help them in their ministries to their congregations. Please send an encouraging note to them at fred.mcginley@sim.org.

Attendance and Giving

Attendance on December 14:

Contemporary Worship Service	(8:15 a.m.)	165
Sunday School & ABF	(9:30 a.m.)	343
Traditional Worship Service	(10:30 a.m.)	240
Evening Fellowship Service	(7:00 a.m.)	63

Giving on December 14:

	<u>\$17,449.98</u>
Benevolent Fund	205.00
Building Fund	828.00
Christian Education Fund	282.98
Current Expense Fund	7,661.00
Missions Fund	4,630.00
New Building Fund	3,843.00

2009 Faith Promise Update: The total amount of faith promises received to date towards our 2009 missions budget is at \$184,517.00 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 or placed in the offering plate through the end of the year.

Year-end reports and proposed budgets for 2009 are due on Sunday, January 25. All boards and committees should submit their annual reports for 2008 and proposed budgets for 2009 to the church office for inclusion in the 2008 Annual Report. The annual congregational business meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 18.

From the Trustees: With the move to the Crossroads Ministry Center (CMC) on January 4 there are some pieces of equipment which would make the facility more worship service friendly. The acoustic panels and classroom carpeting have been ordered and will soon be installed, but some specific pieces of equipment are video projection equipment (\$19,459) and a portable stage (\$4,780). If you would like to give a year-end gift to these upgrades, please mark your giving envelope **Transition Equipment**. Feel free to speak with Trustee Chairman, Lynn Lehman, or technicians, Greg Luginbill and Marvin Foster, with further questions. Also, please contact Randy Garmatter to volunteer to help with CMC set-up and tear-down.

Opportunities of the Week: December 22-28

Monday - Wednesday & Friday 7:30 a.m.

Walking Program – CMC

- Monday 7:00 p.m.** Unified Service Planning Meeting (CMC)
- Tuesday 6:15 a.m.** Men's Bible Study (FH)
- 7:00 p.m.** Ebenezer 2 Men's Basketball Game (CMC)
- 8:00 p.m.** Ebenezer Men's Basketball Game (CMC)
- Wednesday 9:00 a.m.** Game Time (FH)
- 6:00 p.m.** Christmas Eve Service (Sanctuary)
- Thursday ** Merry Christmas - Church Office Closed ****
- Sunday 8:15 & 10:30 a.m.** Worship Service (Sanctuary)
- 9:30 a.m.** Sunday School & ABF (Various classrooms)
- ~ No Evening Fellowship Service ~

Nursery workers for next Sunday, December 28

Andy & Natalie Armstrong, Karla Burkholder,
Jared & Sarah Lehman, Heidi Steiner

The Good News Hour will be starting January 4 for 2-5-year-old children. This will be held from 10:00 a.m. and run until the end of the Worship Gathering. It will be taking the place of Children's Church. During this time children will be involved in several creative Bible centered activities and receive a snack. If you have any questions or are willing to occasionally volunteer your time, please contact Joan Steiner at 419-358-0486

Volunteers for the Good News Hour: Please meet for a brief (10 minutes) informational meeting after the Sunday, January 4, Worship Gathering. The meeting will be held in the basement (B10).

Needed: Five people who are able to carry a cinder block and would like to go on a Missions Trip to Bolivia in early June 2009. Room, board, and flight are \$1,500. Any interested persons please contact Peg Moser at 567-204-1798.

TODAY'S GREETERS

Al & Carolyn Frysinger and Jack & Joyce Reigle
Crossroads Ministry Center

The Trustees (with the concurrence of the Deacons) have decided to sell the parsonage. They will be listing it with a realtor sometime in January. Until then offers will be considered from any current church member/attendee for the parsonage in its current (as-is) condition. Contact any Trustee for more information.

Women's Ministry Movie Night:

- Movie:** Prince Caspian (Chronicles of Narnia by C. S. Lewis)
- Where:** Schoolhouse
- When:** Friday, January 2, at 7:00 p.m.
- Who:** Any lady who needs a break after the stresses of the holiday season, young and young at heart!
- Attire:** Comfy is the word! Pajamas, slippers, sweats, blankies and be ready to snuggle in for the show!
- Eats:** Brink a snack to share...Hot chocolate and hot water for tea provided
- GAB:** We'll discuss Biblical images and themes from the movie afterward

Looking for dependable child care for 5-10 hours a week. Please contact the church office for more information at 419-358-8588.

SIM workers needed February 1-7. Contact Ruth Bixel as soon as possible at 419-358-5078.

Attention Hunters: The Wild Game Committee is in need of your *game* that you have harvested (especially venison). The meat will be used for the 2009 Wild Game Event. Contact Gary Luginbill at 419-235-9416 or Joe Alt at 419-234-1247 with your meat donations. Thank you and good luck hunting!

During this Christmas Season give the gift of goodwill – volunteer at Bluffton Hospital! Touch others by your compassionate smile and courteous ways shown to those entering the hospital. If interested contact Jane Shaw, volunteer coordinator 419-369-2326.