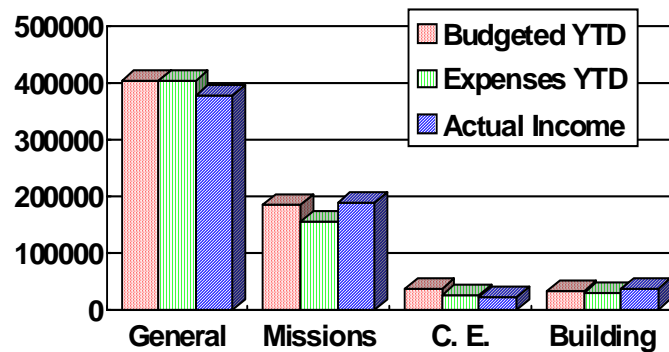


Financial Report – November 2009

Giving & Expenses

	General Fund	Missions Fund	C. E. Fund	Building Fund
Budgeted YTD	405,854	186,328	37,125	34,776
Expenses YTD	403,471	154,483	27,249	29,048
Actual Income	379,974	188,687	22,520	38,265



Cash Fund Balances as of 11/30/09:

General.....	(\$9,309)
Missions.....	* \$65,383
Christian Education	\$11,893
Building	\$22,927
Parsonage Sale Proceeds.....	\$73,252
New Building.....	\$9,040
Benevolent.....	\$14,419

* **Note:** Approximately \$33,200 was disbursed in early December representing fourth quarter missions payments.

► UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES ◀

Dec. 31	Maranatha Class Party (7:00 p.m., CMC)
Jan. 2	The Living Faith ABF (7:00 p.m., Lima Rescue Home)
Jan. 8-10	Junior High Winter Retreat (Miracle Camp)
Jan. 11	MOPS (9:00 a.m., FH)
Jan. 29-31	Senior High Winter Retreat (Miracle Camp)
Feb. 7-13	SIM Missions Trip (Charlotte, NC)
Feb. 17	Annual Congregational Meeting (7:00 p.m., Sanctuary)
Feb. 19	Transport for Christ Banquet (6:30 p.m., BU)
Feb. 24-28	PowerTeam Crusade (CMC, 7:00 p.m.)
Mar. 6	Senior High & Agape Class (7:00 p.m., Lima Rescue Home)

Two Small Groups facilitated by Pastor Jim King, *Each One Connected*. Are you looking for friends? Do you desire to meet others in our church community? Need a place to invite friends from the community? How about an opportunity to grow in your Christian faith? Join a small group!

1. Connections – Where Culture Meets Christ: Wednesdays January 6 – January 27. Join Jim & Pat King for a book discussion with, *Love Is the Killer App: How to Win Business and Influence Friends*, by Tim Sanders. With *Love Is the Killer App* in one hand and the Bible in the other, we'll take four Wednesdays to explore the conversation about ways to glorify Jesus in the work place. Is love really all you need? Tim Sanders, director of Yahoo's in-house think tank, believes love is the crucial element in the search for personal and professional success. In *Love Is the Killer App* he explains why. Sander's advice is to be a *lovecat*. It starts with amassing as much usable knowledge as possible, which he explains can be done by religiously carving out time to read and then poring through as many cutting-edge books in your field as possible. It follows with an emphasis on networking to the extreme. And he concludes by advocating a true mindset of compassion. The book presents great insights on relationship building. This makes it a great tool for anyone. This is an excellent opportunity to invite business people in the community to join in the discussion! We'll start Wednesday, January 6, at The Common Grounds, 101 S. Main St., Bluffton. Time frame will be 7:05 to 8:10 pm. You'll need a copy of the book and a Bible. (Pastor Jim can order the book for you at a cost of \$10.00).

2. Journey through Life: Sundays, January 3 – January 31, (five Sundays) Join Jim & Pat King for a journey through Jonah. We'll start Sunday, January 3, at Jim & Pat's home at 152 S. Jackson St. Bluffton. Time frame will be 6:31 p.m. to 8:05 p.m. Please bring a Bible and an open heart.

Anyone 18 years and older are invited to attend either or both of these small groups. Limit of 20 participants. Contact Jim at 419-296-0885 or jim.king@ebenezymennonite.org or on Facebook to indicate your planned participation. Please invite your friends!



EBENEZER

Emissary Weekly

December 20, 2009

Merry Christmas!

Opportunities of the Day

- 10:00 a.m.** The Good News Hour (2-year-olds meet in their Sunday School Classroom (S4), 3-year-olds meet in B10, 4-5&6-year-olds meet in B17)
- 10:15 a.m.** Christmas Worship Service – Pastor Jim (CMC)
* No Evening Fellowship Service today*

Parents please notice the change in classrooms today for the Good News Hour, the 2-year-olds will meet in their regular Sunday School classroom (S4), 3-year-olds will meet in the basement in Room B10 and the 4-6-year-olds in B17.

Congratulations to Tony & Holly (Gudakunst) Bauman on the birth of their son, Jackson Daniel, on Thursday, December 17, weighing 7 lb. 13 oz.

2010 Faith Promise Update: The total amount of faith promises received to date towards our 2010 missions budget is at \$182,500 towards our goal of \$195,000. Additional cards (which are located on the tables in the Missions Center and Foyer) may be completed and turned in to the Church Office or placed in the offering plate through the end of the year.

Missionary of the week: Dan Reisacher serves at the **Home Office** of TWR in **North Carolina**. He recently attended a conference in California. He brought back information that will benefit TWR in the future. They are now in the final preparations for the Urbana Conference. Pray for them and the students who will be learning more about missions. The conference will be held in St. Louis between Christmas and the New Year. Please send a note of encouragement to Dan at dreisacher@twr.org.

Attendance and Giving

Attendance on December 13:

Sunday School & ABF	(9:00 a.m.)	274
Worship Gathering	(10:15 a.m.)	376
Children's Christmas Program	(7:00 p.m.)	256

Giving on December 13:

\$19,984.15

Benevolent Fund	2,130.00
Building Fund	155.00
Christian Education Fund	401.78
Current Expense Fund	13,746.92
Missions Fund	2,480.00
New Building Fund	40.00
Van Fund	20.00
Youth Fund	1,010.45

Christmastown is coming to the Ebenezer Mennonite Church this Thursday, December 24, at 6:00 p.m. in the Crossroads Ministry Center. Join us for this year's Christmas Eve program. You'll enjoy an evening of humorous and insightful holiday dramas that emphasize the power of simplicity in the Christmas season. You will also enjoy a time of singing together some of the season's traditional Christmas songs. **Merry Christmas!**

Invitation to all: Luke & Rebekah Cherry would like to extend an invitation to the members of the Ebenezer family to a reception in celebration of their wedding that took place on November 14, 2009. Please join them Saturday, January 2, from 2-4 p.m. in the Crossroads Ministry Center.

SIM Workers Needed: If interested please contact Ruth Anna Bixel at 419-358-5078. Dates of SIM trip are February 7-13, 2010.

Year-end reports and proposed budgets for 2010 are due on Sunday, January 24. All boards and committees should submit their annual reports for 2009 and proposed budgets for 2010 to the church office for inclusion in the 2009 Annual Report. The annual congregational business meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 17.

Opportunities of the Week: December 21-27

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

Monday	8:00 p.m.	EMC 2 Men's Basketball (CMC)
Tuesday	6:15 a.m.	Men's Bible Study/Breakfast (FH)
	9:30 p.m.	Junior & Senior High Fifth Quarter (Schoolhouse)
Wednesday	9:00 a.m.	Game Time (FH)
	6:30 p.m.	Worship Team Rehearsal (115)
Thursday	6:00 p.m.	Christmas Eve Service (CMC)
Friday	**Merry Christmas (Church office closed)**	
Sunday	9:00 a.m.	Sunday School & ABF (Various classrooms)
	10:00 a.m.	The Good News Hour (ages 2-3, B10, 4-5-year-olds, B17)
	10:15 a.m.	Worship Gathering (CMC)
	7:00 p.m.	Evening Fellowship Service (Sanctuary)

~ Helpers for Sunday, December 27 ~

Nursery: Matt & Kristi Lora, Cindy, Molly, & Rachel Moser, Phil & Sarah Shank, Mark & Kay Spallinger

The Good News Hour: Kayla Geiger, Sarah Lehman, Cheryl Potter, Brittany Sheehan, Kaitlin Thompson

Maranatha ABF Class: Plan now to attend New Year's Eve at 7:00 p.m. in the Crossroads Ministry Center and bring your family and friends. Also bring games and food to share.

Ebenezer: Thank you for the gift to partner with the staff of the Findlay Area Youth for Christ. You are a blessing to us and the students we see daily. It is our privilege to serve with you. Please continue to pray for the staff as they have special activities planned over the holidays. You are a blessing to us! You make a difference in young people's lives! Have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! – *Thank you, Don & Ann Leader*

TODAY'S GREETERS

Katlyn Bates & Alexis Moser - Missions Center
Rich & Arlene Garmatter - Crossroads Ministry Center



~ The Plug ~

All Junior & Senior High Students are invited to a Fifth Quarter (Christmas movie) following the Bluffton boys' high school basketball game (around 9:30 p.m.) this Tuesday, December 22, in the schoolhouse.

No Dodgeball this Wednesday.

Registration for 2010 Miracle Camp Winter Retreat, January 8-10 Junior High and January 29-31 Senior High. A sign-up sheet will be in your Sunday School Class or see Pastor Wade. Please bring a \$10.00 deposit and sign up **ASAP**.

Supply Drive for Romania: From Andy LaBreche (Missionary with GEM in Romania) *This past year we have been involved with a day center for underprivileged kids in Romania which runs an afterschool VBS type program. If anyone has unused supplies at home, we can ship them to be used at the center. (No crayons – someone gave us an entire case!) Any sewing supplies (fabric remnants, buttons, & other notions) would be welcome. It doesn't have to be new stuff. Winter wear is also something the center has asked for. Along with any donations please include a check to help with the shipping costs. We are getting a deal of \$1.05 (charge) per pound, but have close to 1,000 pounds already. Donated items can be placed in the box in the Missions Center. The LaBreche's will be in our area to pick them up January 9, 2010. Funds for shipping are greatly needed and can be sent directly to **Greater Europe Mission, P.O. Box 1669, Monument CO 80132-1669** designated *LaBreche Ministry* or made out to Ebenezer Mennonite Church and designated for LaBreche's. Thank you very much for your help with this great project! - Missions Committee*



68 Days till POWER TIME!

Everything is coming along well.
Your help is going to be needed.
Start thinking about where you want to help!