

Wittenburg Baptist Church  
*"TOGETHER: A Growing Opportunity"*



Annual Officers Et Committee Reports

January 2009 - December 2009

*"Proclaiming God's Truth in Love"*



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## Pastor's

What an exciting and exhausting year this has been! WOW! While September 2009 marked the first anniversary of our coming, the calendar year 2009 was our first full year serving you and with you here in Wittenburg. As our new facilities continue to progress toward completion, we continued to prepare for the arrival of the new decade and a whole new season of opportunity to serve the Lord's purposes in our area.

The New Year saw the adoption of a clear organizational structure within the church. Shortly thereafter, a Child Protection Policy was drafted in order to better protect and serve the children and youth active in our ministries. The coming year will see that commitment to improving the effectiveness of our ministry in the 21<sup>st</sup> century continue. Wedding and facilities policies will be discussed and adopted by our congregation as we press on to proclaim the Good News in 2010 and beyond!

We are continuously overwhelmed by the dedication and devotion of those who serve the Lord in this church as volunteers in ministries. Whether serving on staff, deacons, trustees and other committees or actively participating in the weekly programs, services and building project; we stand in awe of the people of WBC! Your commitment to revealing and participating in the Kingdom of God whether in giving your time, talents or treasures is truly remarkable!

As your pastor, let it be known far and wide that I am honoured to be serving such an eager and energetic bunch! Way to go team! It is awesome to be part of such a dedicated and enthusiastic group of Christ followers who have come to realize the blessing of giving of themselves so sacrificially.

As we look forward to a whole new chapter in the history of Wittenburg Baptist Church, in this, the (likely) transition year from our current facility to the new building, I want to take this opportunity to encourage each of you to draw your strength and ability in serving from the Holy Spirit. It is only in growing in our relationship with the Lord that we flourish and mature. In so doing we are better able to be and do all that He is inviting and equipping us to do for His purposes.

Zechariah 4:6 reminds us that it is "not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, says the LORD..." So, as we continue together, to enjoy the excitement of life lived to the full in the Kingdom of God, may we do so with His Holy Spirit empowering and motivating us to reach others in the name of Jesus Christ. It is His strength that will not grow weary, it is His power that leads only to further and greater life than we can ever ask or imagine.

Wittenburg Baptist Church is committed to growing together in our love for God and others; in our ability and desire to show grace and mercy to others; in our mission and service to others and in our commitment to live life to the full. May we grow ever more joyfully responsive to the Spirit of God, the Word of God and live it out together, as a witness to the Good News of Jesus Christ in 2010 and beyond.

Joyfully obedient with you in His service,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andy", written in a cursive style.

Pastor Andy

## WBC Deacons Board

***May the God of peace, who through the blood of the eternal covenant brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, that Great Shepherd of the sheep, equip you with everything good for doing His will and may He work in us what is pleasing to Him. Through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen. Hebrews 13:20-21***

We are so thankful that the Lord has equipped everyone in our church with every good thing to continue on in His ministry. We would like to thank all members, attendees, prayer warriors, and those involved in ministries for the time and support that you give and show to this church because of your love for Jesus Christ.

As always it is a blessing to serve on the board to help guide and direct, pray and care for the fellowship of the church. We as a board have been excited to help our pastor plan and incite some new vision and areas of growth. This year we have been able to introduce the Deacons Ministry Teams and just recently the Deacons contact list which assists us in contacting you to hear your needs or concerns. This is a real help for us as we try to lighten up the work load on the Pastor and keep the ministry alive and healthy. This is not meant to take personal or private time away from you and the Pastor but it allows the board members to share in caring for your needs.

We are thankful for your support of the deacon board and trust you know our greatest desire is to follow the leading of the spirit to do the Lord's will in His church. *"Pray for us. We are sure that we have a clear conscience and desire to live honorably in every way."* Hebrews 13:18

Your Board meets regularly on the first Tuesday of every month with other meetings called when needed. We are looking forward to 2010 with hope and faith that the Lord will continue to bless this church in the existing ministries as well as new opportunities which our Pastor and Board would ask you to be in prayer for. Such things as Leadership Training, Sunday Morning Studies (before church), Community Outreach, Mission Opportunities and Small Group Studies.

This coming year we are planning to be in the new church building which will be a blessing in many ways for the ministry here in our area. Be in prayer for the community in which you live as the new church may spark interest and become a conversation topic between you and your neighbors. What a great way to share your love of Jesus with them and invite them out to church so they can experience what that love is all about. We pray the spirit moves in the hearts of many.

This year as we work together and support Pastor Andy as he leads may we be found faithful, loving, kind, considerate, compassionate and encouraging and as Paul wrote in *Ephesians 4:1-7* *As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received. Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to one hope when you were called—one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all. But to each one of us grace has been given as Christ apportioned it.*

Your Board of Deacons

Robert Dorland	Corporate Worship
Hank Veenhuis	Biblical Instruction
Steve Ellis	Mutual Edification
Frank Ellis	Proclamation and Mission
Dana Day	Chairman

## **FAITH PROMISE MISSIONS**

**"How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace,  
and bring glad tidings of good things!" Romans 10:15.**

We are a blessed people who live in a country of plenty and have relative peace and safety we are also blessed with the freedom to worship God openly without fear of reprisal. This is not the case in so many parts of the world and for these people whom God loves he has called apart missionaries to go and preach the gospel and provide, as resources allow, food, shelter and medical assistance in the midst of poverty.

We thank God for the many missionaries that we have had the privilege to support from Wittenburg Baptist. Each year over the past twelve, since starting faith promise giving for missions the Lord has laid on the hearts of his people to increased giving each year. We as well have been blessed by many missionaries and representatives from our convention to speak at our annual mission conferences. We were thankful to have Craig Evans from ADC with us in our October conference this year.

This past year has seen some changes in the missionaries that we support. Jason Thomas completed his term this summer and the Jankes returned from Bolivia to resume pastoral ministry in the Canadian west. In November we voted as replacements Bruno and Kathleen Soucy as missionaries to Rwanda. As our second replacement we voted to support Jason Burke as a full time missionary as director of Camp Pagweak. We again this year were able to sponsor 'kids to camp' at both Mt Traber and Camp Pagweak. We are now at full complement of sponsored missionaries for support and let us diligently pray for those who "bring glad tidings of good things."

May we never lose our vision for the support of missions at Wittenburg Baptist and continue to pray that we allow the Holy Spirit to be the sole leadership in the future as he has been in the past.

From the missions committee we would like to leave you with two quotes from William Carey the pioneer of the modern era of missions; "expect great things from God, attempt great things for God." "The future is as bright as the promises of God."

The power of God to act for good and the salvation of the lost is only limited by our failure to heed to God's calling that every Christian is a missionary either "across the street or across the sea."

Prayerfully submitted on behalf of  
You're missions committee  
Wittenburg Baptist church  
Ed Giffin, chairman

## **Building Committee**

Are we there yet? Your Building Committee was asked this almost as much as parents on a four hour drive, but we didn't mind because much was being discussed and much was being accomplished.

We met approximately six times to get all the information necessary for work to proceed. Much of this time was getting the quotes for the heating system. We also spent time on such key items as the brick work, siding, septic system, well and electrical.

Work that was completed this past year included fixing the wind damage to shingles, strengthen the interior tall walls, all vinyl siding and soffit, building of the carport, installation of the exterior windows and doors, well- including piping to the building, all in ground work for Geothermal heating, installation of the septic tanks and fields and of course the much discussed brick work. Whew, I'm tired just thinking about the work.

While the outside work is 90% complete there is a lot to do in the inside. This year will be challenging too, but exciting as the interior starts to take on a finished look. We all look forward to opening day, but are content to proceed as the Lord leads.

We pray that the congregation will continue to support and be patient as we work through the many challenges, this project entails.

Thanks to those who have worked, prayed and gave.

On behalf of your committee,

Steven Ellis

Committee

Shannon Redmond

Stephen Haverstock

Hank Veenhuis

Charlie Milner

Ed Giffin

## **Trustees**

Since the last report, the Trustees have mainly been supporting the building of our new facility. We have also ensured the current building has been stockpiled with winter wood and we believe we have enough to carry us through the winter. I wish to express my sincere thanks to those individuals who came out and cut it all up prior to the announced workday for it. It made our workday all the more easier. The Trustees have also put our current building up for sale. We are keeping in close contact with the Realtor but we do anticipate that it may take some time to sell it so patience will be the key.

We have done some minor maintenance to the Parsonage but the replacement of the roof has been put off until this summer when the weather will be more favorable. Over the coming months the Trustees will continue to support Steve in the efforts to finish our new church as soon as possible. This will be my last report as the head of the Trustees so I wish to thank all those who have supported me over the last 5+ years.

Sincerely

Jim Grosvenor  
Cheers

## **TEEN Youth Group**

This year has been flying by at Youth Group!!! We are doing a study called - *Up Close and Personal*, another DVD study with leader led discussion, skits and hand-outs. They seem to be loving it so far! Also this year we have had a swim night, a youth retreat at Camp Pagweak, Survivor Weekend and our Christmas party at Mt Traber.

We have new teen faces at youth group this fall, some un-churched and some that come with fellow Christians friends. It is always exciting to see our dynamics change each year. We have also lost two familiar faces with Julie Paxton moving away for school and Jason Thomas going out West for work.

We thank the church for their support and prayers. We are always happy to accept offers to help with snacks and pray for our teens, they are at an impressionable time in their lives and we are blessed to have them chose to spend Monday nights with us studying God's word!

Rebecca Veenhuis

## Sunday School

Vacation Bible School: Crocodile Dock was held in the summer of 09. We had approximately 40 children attending this year, and a lot of new faces. It was a fun time for all. The Bayou team did a fantastic job. Thanks to everyone who helped out.

We started a new program in the Fall of 09 called "Living Inside Out". This program combines fun-active music, experiments, games, and great Bible stories that encourage the children to live out their faith every day, everywhere. The Bible lessons are done as a large group, and then we break off into classes to discuss and have small group activities. Paula has been a fantastic leader for our large group. Our first 8 weeks involved learning about many of the heroes of the Bible. Our next module is called Star Quest, which will take us on a fantastic journey for 10 weeks. Part of Living Inside Out, is giving to others. We have focused on this through many activities we have done, such as making cookies for other people, and making Christmas cards for the Christmas bags that were sent out.

Although we did not have a Christmas concert this year, the Sunday School participated in Church services during the month of December.

Our small groups are broken up as follows:

Preschool/Primary: Melissa Scheel & Paula Stokdijk

Grade 1 – 2: Jeanie Day, Evelyn Grosvenor & Donnie Taylor

Grade 3-6: Sherilee Ellis & Nancy Thomas

Thank you to all who are able and willing to help out. More teachers and assistants are always welcome.

God Bless,

Melissa Scheel  
Superintendent

## **GROW ZONE**

The 2009 GROW ZONE Ministry introduced a new program this year for children ages 6 - 12 years at Wittenburg Baptist Church. Using the resources of Kidmo and the talents of Johnny Rogers, the children are experiencing their mid-week meeting in a fast pace and exciting media presentation format. It has been a transition time for the leadership team (Dave Taylor, Debbie Taylor, John Scheel, Pam Jollimore, Cathy Milner & Travis Veenhuis), as we learn the new techniques of this media driven ministry. The program is being well received by the children on Tuesday evenings from 6:30 PM to 8:00 PM, with 28 children registered. The Leadership Team has interjected some of their own proven ministry techniques of bible discovery, memory work, Christian Service and friendly competition that allows the children to build their relationship with Christ at their own pace and keeps them motivated. As a Leadership Team we meet once per month to come together for corporate prayer for the program as well as to plan and support each other in all aspects of this ministry.

Challenges and prayer requests for this youth ministry are:

- 1) For God's leading and protection in this ministry.
- 2) For new leaders in this ministry.
- 3) The new Church so that all programs and activities could be done more effectively (logistics for media presentation, games and group activities is difficult with this many children).
- 4) For the Leaders to use their gifts and talents effectively in this program.

A special thank you to the Leadership Team for the dedication and faithfulness to this Ministry. This report is being submitted on behalf of the Leadership Team for the GROW ZONE.

In His Service,

Cathy Milner & Pam Jollimore  
Co-Leaders, GROW ZONE

## Ladies Bible Study

Ladies Bible study kicked off their year with Stepping Up: A Journey Through the Psalms of Ascent. Traveling pilgrims sang these psalms both on the way to the great festivals of the Jews and as key elements of the worship at those festivals. Through this study by author/teacher Beth Moore, we were able to gain a new appreciation for the life of faith as a journey to greater fellowship with and worship of God.

As a reprieve from the heavy homework load we triumphed over through the winter months, we headed into the spring with a lighter study from the Women of Faith series titled, Managing Your Moods. Through this study we took a chapter a week focusing on one particular emotion and the effecting mood that accompanies it. We were in agreement with the goal for the study as stated in the introduction of the book, "God created us with a broad spectrum of emotional potential. On one end of the spectrum we experience giggles, gladness and joy; on the other end, sadness, disappointment and anger. It is important that we feel all of these emotions and even express them, but by the same token we must learn to express them in ways appropriate for women who are striving to be godly." Please note we will ***not*** be taking a poll of our family and friends in the near future, to see how we are doing in the application of this study!

We brought 2009 to a close with a fascinating 10 week study on the book of Esther titled, Esther: It's Tough Being a Woman. Though God is not mentioned once in the book of Esther, we discovered He is all over the book in what has been left unsaid; trusting the unseen but ever-present God was one of the key truths learned in this study.

Ladies Bible study is a time for us to learn more about God and His desires for our lives, the bonus that goes along with our time together in the Word, is that we strengthen existing relationships and establish new ones with women both in and outside our congregation. Linda Taylor continues to lead the Monday morning class here at the church and I lead the discussion time during the Thursday evening class held in various homes. It is our desire to nurture an environment at ladies bible study where all who come feel welcomed and valued as part of our gathering.

Paula Stokdijk

*2010 WBC Ministry positions and titles  
(Highlighted positions nominated by the committee)*

Corporate Worship (Bob Dorland)	Biblical Instruction (Hank Veenhuis)	Mutual Edification (Steve Ellis)		Proclamation & Mission (Frank Ellis)
<p><b><u>Worship Planner</u></b> Jeanie Day</p> <p><b><u>Praise Team</u></b> Chris Day Courtney Day Erinn Smith Donnie Taylor Emily Taylor</p> <p><b><u>Organist</u></b> Miriam Larkin</p> <p><b><u>Pianist</u></b> Marlene Giffin Doug Taylor</p> <p><b><u>Sound booth Tech</u></b> Chris Day</p> <p><b><u>Drama Ministry</u></b> Debbie Taylor</p> <p><b><u>Communion</u></b> Lynne Dorland Lois Ellis (spare)</p> <p><b><u>Welcoming Team</u></b> Andrew Taylor Lois Ellis</p> <p><b><u>Offering</u></b> Sophie Haverstock Hannah Stokdijk Hunter Redmond Carter Redmond Anson Mack Danielle Day Josh Ellis Austin Taylor Shanda Taylor Jordan Mosher Colten Mosher</p> <p><b><u>Decorations</u></b> Evelyn Grosvenor Jean Day Debbie Taylor Sandra Van Der Schaar</p> <p><b><u>Social Committee</u></b> Eunice Veenhuis Rachael de Vries Sandra Van der Schaar Karla Leopold</p>	<p><b><u>Nursery</u></b> Rebecca Veenhuis</p> <p><b><u>Teen youth Group</u></b> Rebecca Veenhuis Travis Veenhuis Donnie Taylor Jean Day Natasha Merlin</p> <p><b><u>Mid week Kids</u></b> Cathy Milner Pam Jollimore Dave Taylor Debbie Taylor Jon Scheel</p> <p><b><u>Sunday school superintendent</u></b> Melissa Scheel</p> <p><b><u>Sunday school teachers</u></b> Melissa Scheel Paula Stokdijk Sherilee Ellis Nancy Thomas Jeanie Day Evelyn Grosvenor Donnie Taylor</p> <p><b><u>Adult Sunday school</u></b> Hank Veenhuis</p> <p><b><u>Couples bible study</u></b> Steven Ellis/ Bob Dorland</p> <p><b><u>Mid week bible study</u></b> Andy Mack</p> <p><b><u>Ladies bible study</u></b> Paula Stokdijk</p>	<p><b><u>Admin. Assistant/ Clerk</u></b> Shannon Redmond</p> <p><b><u>Assistant Clerk</u></b> Cheryl Taylor</p> <p><b><u>Janitor</u></b> Sherilee Ellis Seanna Ellis</p> <p><b><u>Caretaker</u></b> Richard Sibley Steven Ellis Jonathon Ellis</p> <p><b><u>Trustees</u></b> Jon Stokdijk- 08 Mark Taylor - 08 Joe Harnish- 09 Stephen Leopold-09 George de Vries- 09 Darren Mosher -10</p> <p><b><u>Building Committee</u></b> Steve Ellis Charlie Milner Ed Giffin Stephen Haverstock Shannon Redmond Hank Veenhuis</p> <p><b><u>Web master</u></b> Jay Redmond</p>	<p><b><u>Treasurer</u></b> Melissa Scheel</p> <p><b><u>Finance</u></b> Charlie Milner- 08 George De Vries-10 Bob Dorland-10 Cheryl Taylor-10 Sandy MacPherson-10</p> <p><b><u>Church Envelopes</u></b> Sandra Van der Schaar Lynne Dorland Barb Larkin Elaine Day(spare) Carol Sibley(spare) Lois Ellis (spare)</p> <p><b><u>Nominating Committee</u></b> <b>2 Deacons</b> <b>(Steve Ellis, Bob Dorland)</b> Dave Taylor Eunice Veenhuis A Trustee</p> <p><b><u>Auditors 09</u></b> Jennifer Haverstock Erinn Smith Paula Stokdijk</p> <p><b><u>Auditors 2010</u></b> Steve Ellis Lynne Dorland Carol Sibley</p>	<p><b><u>Missions</u></b> Cathy Milner Lynne Dorland Pam Jollimore Linda Taylor</p> <p><b><u>Card Ministry</u></b> Nancy Thomas</p> <p><b><u>Villa Ministry</u></b> Ed &amp; Marlene Giffin</p> <p><b><u>Braeside Ministry</u></b> Audrey &amp; Fred Isenor</p> <p><b><u>Food Bank</u></b> Pam Jollimore Bob Dorland</p> <p><b><u>Compassion</u></b> Evelyn Grosvenor Jeanie Day Sarah Mosher</p> <p><b><u>Library</u></b> Andrew Taylor</p>