

The Echo

No. 2-2004 FEBRUARY Santee, CA

The Monthly Newsletter of:

Carlton Hills Evangelical Lutheran Church

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Our Mission Statement:

Strengthen Faith in Christ

Enlarge our Hearts

Energize for Mission

Stretch our Minds

CONSECRATION SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22nd

With brunch after worship

Our stewardship emphasis this year will culminate on Consecration Sunday, February 22nd. This is the time we ask every family and Confirmed youth to make their financial estimate of giving to Carlton Hills Lutheran Church for the year, 2004. What we commit to on Consecration Sunday will determine how effective our church will be in strengthening Christ's message in our own lives and the lives of those who live around us and throughout the world.

Consecration Sunday is based on the philosophy of "the need of the giver to give" for his or her own spiritual development, rather than on the "need of the church to receive." Instead of treating people like members of a social club who need to pay dues, we will be treating people like followers of Jesus Christ who want to give unselfishly as an act of discipleship.

Our goal is to raise the level of giving of individuals to the church rather than to raise a church budget. Our task this year is to make good stewards; to teach people to accept a sacred partnership with God by accepting the Bible's standard of good giving, the tithe; and to encourage people to give proportionately and systematically in keeping with their ability.

There will be no tricks. Every member who makes a commitment will do so by voluntarily coming to the church on Consecration Sunday for the purpose of worship, making his or her financial estimate to the Lord's work,

and then eating a Celebration Brunch in the Acts Center where Time and Talent commitments may also be filled out. The brunch will take place immediately after worship. Because part of the brunch will be catered, reservations are required. You will be asked to make your reservation for brunch by signing up at worship on February 8th and 15th. Those not signed up will be contacted to see if it is impossible for them to attend. There is no charge for the brunch and no free will offering will be received, although some may be asked to bring a dish to share. It is a CELEBRATION BRUNCH, a time when God's people will gather to celebrate the results of our pledging that morning.



We are fortunate that morning to have the Assistant to our Bishop, Pastor Karen Parker (who later in the year will be working with our congregation and the Call Committee) preaching. At the close of the service of worship you will be instructed in how to fill out your estimate of giving card for 2004. This is an act of worship, completed during worship. Your commitment is strictly between you and God. The commitment period will be for the year 2004.

CONSECRATION SUNDAY will be a very festive day in the life of the church. It is a day when you will be asked to recommit your life to Christ as a faithful member of Carlton Hills Lutheran Church, to make an estimate of giving of Time, Talent and Treasure. Our Youth are already working with Pr. Rick in helping to make this a wonderful day of celebration. Don't be left out. Our goal is over 200 at worship on Consecration Sunday February 22nd.



THE MESSAGE OF LENT

Often Lent means very little. We tend to Leap from the Ashes of Ash Wednesday Right into the glory of Easter.

LENT begins with Ash Wednesday on February 25th. Traditionally Lent has been a time of self-examination, recognition of sinfulness, and seeking reconciliation with God. Often today Lent means very little. We tend to leap from a cross of ashes, borne on our foreheads on Ash Wednesday, right into the glory of Easter. Even Good Friday is barely observed. Lent, when it is observed, tends to be a private affair. The Gospel readings for the Lenten season speak a different language.

Jesus' first prediction of his suffering and death (Mark 8:31) follows on Peter's confession of Jesus as the Messiah. Jesus accepts this designation. Yet his response to Peter contains a radical qualification: this Messiah will not conquer the world through power and domination but through suffering and death. Jesus' prediction that this Messiah is the Son of Man who will have to suffer and die turns the traditional expectations of the Messiah's role upside down.

God does not come into the world to use power against power and force against force. Rather, in Jesus as the Messiah, God joins the poor, the hungry, and the persecuted. This challenges the legitimacy of every political, social, and economic system that allows the poor to go hungry. It establishes for the faithful Christian a fundamental suspicion of the ways of this world and of its institutions.

This creates an uncomfortable relationship with the world and its

rulers, powers, and dominating institutions. Christians are tempted to establish their own power, their own values, and their own success in this world. Today there are many who desire to impose their vision of a law-abiding society upon other people. According to the Gospel, God in Jesus is not present in power and success but among those who are on the wrong end of the exercise of power as it is practiced in this world.



LENTEN WORSHIP—EVENING VESPERS

During the Wednesday evening services in Lent, beginning March 3rd through the 31st (five Wednesdays in March) we will again be using the Holden Evening Prayer as our order of service. The words are the same as the Vesper service in the Lutheran Book of Worship. The music is by Marty Haugen, who wrote the music for Now The Feast, a contemporary service.

The Holden Evening Prayer is so named because it was developed for the worshiping community at Holden Village in Washington State. The words of the Vesper service create a quiet, meditative mood. Haugen's music, with its smooth, singable melodies, contributes greatly to this mood.

Prior to our Worship which will take place in the Acts Center we will again gather for a soup and salad dinner. Make this a time of spiritual renewal for you and your family during Lent.



**KICKING IT UP A NOTCH AGAIN,
THIS TIME WITH
KICKING IT UP A NOTCH AGAIN,
THIS TIME WITH**

THIRTY PIECES OF SILVER

Thirty pieces of silver. That's the price of BETRAYAL. Can we turn that price into the POWER OF MINISTRY AND MISSION IN JESUS NAME? Can each member of Carlton Hills Lutheran Church, man, woman and child fill a bag with 30 pieces of silver to be brought to worship on Palm Sunday April 4th. On February 22nd, CONSECRATION SUNDAY, every person at worship will receive the gift of a bag with a silver coin inside. Can you return that bag on Palm Sunday April 4th with 30 or more pieces of silver to turn the price of Betrayal into the POWER FOR MINISTRY AND MISSION?



During Lent you are asked to make a Sacrificial Gift to the Ministry and Mission of Jesus through our Church. Our challenge is to raise \$4,000 over and above our regular giving through a daily Lenten Sacrifice. Five Hundred dollars would be given to Santee Food Bank, Five Hundred Dollars to Help mission outreach through the Church at Large with the remainder being used to help meet pressing needs of our own parish. We need to help underwrite and maintain our regular ministry to

Youth with Pastor Rick, our Sunday Worship, the ministry to sick and shut in of our parish, Stephen Ministry to name a few.

God's People are being challenged! Know that God asks no small thing of his faithful people. If our Ministry is to continue and grow we all need to answer the call and respond.

Have you any idea what \$4,000 of silver coin looks like or weighs? We will have a wagon or wheel borrow in the church just to hold the bags of coin. We will need volunteers to count and help carry it to the Bank. Can you?

Turn the Price of Betrayal into a Powerful Symbol of Mission and Ministry.

I am counting on you to HELP KICK IT UP A NOTCH.



DO YOU KNIT OR CROCHET?

The Dorcas Circle is looking for people to Share their talent and make shawls for our Prayer Shawl Ministry. The Dorcas Circle will provide yarn for your project, you provide the talent and prayers as you knit or crochet! Please contact Florence Hustad or Charlotte Arthurton for more information.

A Hug is a perfect gift. One size fits all. And nobody minds if you exchange it.

Spotlight on Hymns

“Seek Ye First” WOV #783

*Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness,
And all these things shall be added unto you.*

Allelu, alleluia.

Karen Lafferty, b. 1948

Born and raised in Alamogordo, New Mexico, Karen Lafferty is probably best known in the Christian world as the author of the scripture chorus "Seek Ye First." This chorus, and its message, has been key in opening doors for Karen around the world and is found in most major hymnals today. Karen's public performance began during her teenage years as she participated in musical groups ranging from folk and rock groups to marching band, stage band, orchestra, choir and solo performances. She received the majority of her formal musical training at Eastern New Mexico University earning a Bachelor of Music Education.

Karen became active in her church, Calvary Chapel, in Costa Mesa, California, and spent her first years in ministry with the Christian recording company Maranatha! Music, which was an outgrowth of Calvary Chapel. There she recorded four albums.

As she began to have invitations to share her music outside the USA, she began to see the incredible potential that contemporary Christian music had in reaching youth around the world. After completing missionary training in Holland with Youth With A Mission (YWAM) Karen founded Musicians For Missions International (MFMI) in 1981 as a part of YWAM in Amsterdam, Holland.

For more than two decades Karen has concentrated her energies on developing MFMI. She has led many multinational music teams on tours in more than 50 countries; held numerous music seminars and short term outreaches for musicians, launched a "School of Music In Missions" as part of YWAM's University of the Nations and produced or assisted with many recordings in several languages. While living in Amsterdam, she and the MFMI staff musicians were regularly involved with ministry to prostitutes and street people.

In 1995 after leading the first "School of Music in Missions" in Amsterdam, Karen felt she needed to return to the US to help her elderly parents. She relocated to Santa Fe, New Mexico and incorporated YWAM Santa Fe to be the new home for Musicians For Missions International. Although Karen has become very involved with local Santa Fe churches, her call to the nations remains strong. She is still a world traveling troubadour who loves to share the Love of Jesus through music. Her latest recording "Multitudes – The Sound of Many Nations" is a reflection of her life's work with musicians from many nations.

“Seek Ye First” is one of our favorite hymns and is planned as the sending hymn for the February 15 service.

Mardi Gras' Christian Roots

Mardi Gras, literally "Fat Tuesday," has grown in popularity in recent years as a raucous, sometimes hedonistic event. But its roots lie in the Christian calendar, as the "last hurrah" before Lent begins on Ash Wednesday. That's why the enormous party in New Orleans, for example, ends abruptly at midnight on Tuesday, with battalions of streetsweepers pushing the crowds out of the French Quarter towards home.

What is less known about Mardi Gras is its relation to the Christmas season, through the ordinary-time interlude known in many Catholic cultures as Carnival. (Ordinary time, in the Christian calendar, refers to the normal "ordering" of time outside of the Advent/Christmas or Lent/Easter seasons.)



Carnival comes from the Latin words *carne vale*, meaning "farewell to the flesh." Like many Christian holidays and seasonal celebrations, it likely has its roots in pre-Christian traditions based on the seasons. Some believe the festival represented the few days added to the lunar calendar to make it coincide with the solar calendar; since these days were outside the calendar, rules and customs were not obeyed. Others see it as a late-winter celebration designed to welcome the coming spring. As early as the middle of the second century, the Romans observed a Fast of 40 Days, which was preceded by a brief season of feasting, costumes and merrymaking.

The Carnival season kicks off with the Epiphany, also known as Twelfth Night, Three Kings' Day and, in the Eastern churches, Theophany. Epiphany, which

falls on January 6th, 12 days after Christmas, celebrates the visit of the Wise Men bearing gifts for the infant Jesus. In cultures that celebrate Carnival, Epiphany kicks off a series of parties leading up to Mardi Gras.


Epiphany is also traditionally when celebrants serve King's Cake, a custom that began in France in the 12th century. Legend has it that the cakes were made in a circle to represent the circular routes that the Wise Men took to find Jesus, in order to confuse King Herod and foil his plans of killing the Christ Child. In the early days, a coin or bean was hidden inside the cake, and whoever found the item was said to have good luck in the coming year. In Louisiana, bakers now put a small baby, representing the Christ Child, in the cake; the recipient is then expected to host the next King Cake party.


Eventually the French in New Orleans celebrated Mardi Gras with masked balls and parties, until the Spanish government took over in the mid-1700s and banned the celebrations. The ban continued even after the U.S. government acquired the land but the celebrations resumed in 1827. The official colors of Mardi Gras, with their roots in Catholicism, were chosen 10 years later: purple, a symbol of justice; green, representing faith; and gold, to signify power.



Mardi Gras literally means "Fat Tuesday" in French. The name comes from the tradition of slaughtering and feasting upon a fattened calf on the last day of Carnival. The day is also known as Shrove Tuesday (from "to shrive," or

hear confessions), Pancake Tuesday and fetter Dienstag. The custom of making pancakes comes from the need to use up fat, eggs and dairy before the fasting and abstinence of Lent begins.

The reasons for the great variation in Mardi Gras day can be explained by the custom of aligning the occurrence Easter Sunday and then Ash Wednesday and Mardi Gras annually with the Sun and the spring full moon. Many are surprised to learn that Easter Sunday is determined by planetary alignment. 

The first day of spring for those of us who live above the Equator is usually March 21st. This Spring or Vernal Equinox is the first day of the year when night  is not longer than day. From this point forward in our calendar the sun will shine longer tomorrow than today, until three months later when the longest day of the year will arrive. Summer Solstice almost always occurs on June 21.

Easter can fall on any Sunday from March 23rd to April 25th because it set to fall on the first Sunday succeeding the first full moon after the Spring Equinox. First day of Lent, Ash Wednesday is a function of 40 weekdays plus seven Sundays prior to Easter. Since Ash Wednesday falls on February 25th this year, Mardi Gras will end at midnight on February 24th. 

Sources: http://www.theholidayspot.com/ash_wednesday/
http://www.cin.org/users/james/files/ash_wed.htm
<http://www.carnaval.com/cityguides/dating.htm>
<http://www.americancatholic.org/Features/MardiGras/default.asp>
Submitted by Leslie Atkins

Transition Team Meeting

January 14, 2004

Carlton Hills Evangelical Lutheran Church Members present: Bob Metz, Pastor Frank Gearhart, Tim Hustad, Dee Ryden, Darrel Timan, Susan Ellison, Joi Comstock and Jim Thomas.

The Rev. Dr. Gordon Peterson, Assitant to the Bishop for Reconciliation and Discipleship, led us in a well structured meeting discussing five developmental tasks for interim ministry. They are:

1. Coming to Terms with History
2. Discovering a New Identity
3. Dealing with Shifts in Power
4. Strengthening Denominational Ties
5. Commitment to New Leadership

We were comforted by the fact that we have an expert in this situation from the Bishop's office to help us pursue our goals in a logical, attainable manner.

We will meet again in approximately two weeks.



"Is It I, Lord?"

Do you remember reading the articles regarding the Stephen Ministry in the Echo a couple of months ago? They were on the pros and cons of either being, or needing, a Stephen Minister. Did you read the articles with interest, or pass over them after seeing the title? I'd like to pass along a little more "fodder" for you to think on. Training classes for new Stephen Ministers will begin in April. We will actively start "recruiting" in March. If

the articles provoked a spark of interest, got you thinking about joining us, or maybe needing us, let me plant another seed or two. Talk to a Stephen Minister. You know them all: Bill Blue, Carol Davidson, Ed Teichner, Jim Thomas, and Ellie Timan. Talk to Pastor Frank or Pastor Rick. Better yet, talk to God, and listen to what He says. We sang a hymn in church recently that we should all take to heart in our church life. "Is it I, Lord? I will go, Lord. I have heard you crying in the night. I will go, Lord, if you need me. I will hold your people in my heart." We are all at a crossroads in our church life, and there are many changes ahead here at CHLC. Whether it be Stephen Ministry, or another task God is calling us to do, now is the time we need to heed the words of that hymn. Is it I, Lord? I will go, Lord, if You lead me.

How will we answer?



CHURCH COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS JANUARY 2004

Pastor Frank is still helping us deal with the congregation's grief for Pastor Mark. We assisted him in a test to determine the extent of our healing.

Consecration Sunday will be held February 22nd. There will be three Sunday programs leading up to Consecration Sunday – Faith, Hope and Love. Pastor Frank will preach on the theme of Faith on February 8th. Pastor Tom Dudley, our Synod Stewardship leader will preach on Hope on February 15th, and Pastor Karen Parker from the Synod will speak on Love on February 22nd. The congregation will sign an "estimate of giving" card at church and they will place it on the altar. Dorcas Circle will furnish brunch to the

congregation following service. While in the Acts Center, members can fill out their time and talent sheets. The youth will decorate the church and Acts Center. It is requested that all members attend this very important three-week program.

Jan Neuhaus will be returning as music and choir director. It will be good to have her back.

Plans were made for the Lenten Season. Ash Wednesday is February 25th, with services at 7 p.m. Soup and salad dinners will be held the following five Wednesdays prior to service. Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services will be held at 7 p.m. Easter Sunday service will be held April 11th, with an Easter egg hunt and a brunch. It was decided to have a "30 Pieces of Silver" special Lenten Self-Denial offering. We will ask members to deny themselves something for Lent and place the cost of that item in a furnished bag (each time they would want it) to collect for the term of Lent. On Palm Sunday all these bags of coins (and we do want coins) will be brought in by members to the service. We are hoping for \$30.00 per person (not family), with every man, woman and child participating. Nancy Funick will make the bags. A percentage will go to Santee Food Bank and to Synod benevolence, which we are behind in payments to. The balance will go to the general fund to assist us with our debts.

The annual congregational meeting will be held on Sunday, February 15th following service. Please make plans to attend. Installation of church council officers will be held the same day.

These are very busy times for our church, and we look forward to your participation.

Respectfully submitted,
Marie Freeman
Council Secretary

DORCAS CIRCLE
2004 PROPOSED
CALENDAR OF EVENTS

January	4	Santee Food Bank Collections – church service
	7	Regular Meeting – 6:30 p.m.
	17	Kitchen Detail – 9 a.m.
	25	Installation of Officers
	25	Santee Food Bank speaker/presentation of certificate
February	1	Santee Food Bank Collections – church service
	4	Regular Meeting – 6:30 p.m.
	15	Bake Sale – Chairperson Kathleen Darland
March	6	Regular Meeting – Saturday, 9:30 a.m., due to Lent
	7	Santee Food Bank Collections – church service
	14	Baked Potato Party – Chairperson Ellie Timan
April	3	Regular Meeting – Saturday, 9:30 a.m., due to Lent
	4	Santee Food Bank Collections – church service
May	2	Santee Food Bank Collections – church service
	5	Regular Meeting – 6:30 p.m.
	8	Pancake Breakfast
	9	Mother’s Day
June	2	Regular Meeting – 6:30 p.m.
	6	Santee Food Bank Collections – church service
	20	Father’s Day
	?	Confirmation
July	4	Santee Food Bank Collections – church service
	7	Regular Meeting – 6:30 p.m.
	?	Possible summer picnic
August	1	Santee Food Bank Collections – church service
	4	Regular Meeting – 6:30 p.m.
September	1	Regular Meeting – 6:30 p.m.
	5	Santee Food Bank Collections – church service
	26	Spaghetti Dinner
October	3	Santee Food Bank Collections – church service
	6	Regular Meeting – 6:30 p.m.
	?	Possible Halloween Party
November	3	Regular Meeting – 6:30 p.m.
	7	Santee Food Bank Collections – church service
	20/21	3 rd Annual Holiday Bazaar
December	1	Regular Meeting – 6:30 p.m.
	5	Santee Food Bank Collections – church service
	?	Christmas Party (tea?)
	?	Edgemoor Donations
	?	Decorate furnished tree

GET TO KNOW THE DORCAS CIRCLE

PURPOSE STATEMENT

Women of the Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America

As a community of women created in the image of God, called to discipleship in Jesus Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit,

We commit ourselves to grow in faith, affirm our gifts, support one another in our callings, engage in ministry and action, and promote healing and wholeness in the church, the society and the world

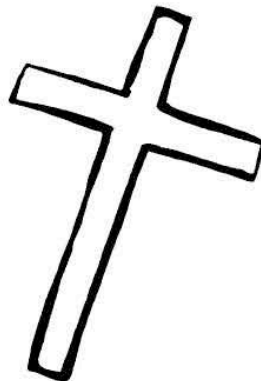


Women
of the
**EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN
CHURCH
IN AMERICA**

**MEETINGS ARE THE
FIRST WEDNESDAY
OF EACH MONTH
STARTING AT
6:30 p.m.**

DORCAS 2004 MISSION

The Dorcas Circle has two missions this year. The first is to assist the church in clearing up their deficit. The second mission is to raise food and money for the Santee Food Bank, a very worthy local charity. Since November, we have collected 140 pieces of non-perishable food and \$330.00 from the congregation. Look for bulletin insert to remind you to bring your donations.



Prayer Shawls

Dorcas is looking for volunteers who can crochet or knit prayer shawls for donations to those who need them. We will purchase the yarn if you will donate your services. Contact Charlotte Arthurton.

FRIENDS

Even though Dorcas is a women's circle, we have decided that friends of any gender are more than welcome to join us. So, within our own church family, we could be known as Dorcas & Friends.

BAKE SALE

Bake sale to be held on Sunday February 15th. We need baked items donated as well. See Kathleen Darland.

CHALLENGE !!!

Dorcas Circle wants to challenge the men of the church. It's time the guys got together and did a fundraiser!! step up and show us What you can do.....

POTATO PARTY

Something different – look for our Potato Party in March. Talk to Ellie Timan for particulars.



+++REMEMBER IN PRAYER those who are affected by anxiety, depression, guilt, grief, loneliness, poverty, illness and in need of God's healing and loving touch:

Friends: Arnold, Glen, Kathy, Patty, Fred, Helen

Members: Crystal & Rod Boisvert, Arlean Lane, Laura Kramer, Norie Feltner, Ralph Beyer, Joseph & Gertrude Geiler, Gunda Richardson, Grace Otto, Judy Johnston, Ed & Marge Whitehead, Elsie Erion, Linda Tomsick, Cole & Marie Freeman, Betty Keehn, Charlotte Kimbrough, Marty Freer, Arnold Flurry, Jan, Erin, Andrew Neuhaus & family.

NOTE: We currently have two prayer chains that can be easily activated by calling Mary Thomas, Prayer Chain Coordinator, 334-6457(note this is her new number).



Texts for the Sundays in January:

Feb 1st/ 4th Sunday after the Epiphany
Jer 1:4-10, 1 Cor 13:1-13, Luke 4:21-30
Feb 8th/ 5th Sunday after the Epiphany
Isa 6:1-13, 1 Cor 15:1-11, Luke 5:1-11
Feb 15th/ 6th Sunday after the Epiphany
Jer 17:5-10, 1 Cor 15:12-20, Luke 6:17-26
Feb 22nd/ Transfiguration of Our Lord
Exod 34:29-35, 2 Cor 3:12-4:2, Luke 9:28-43
Feb 29th/ 1st Sunday of Lent
Deut 26:1-11, Rom 10:8b-13, Luke 4:1-13



SR. FELLOWSHIP meets at the Jamacha Junction, 777 Jamacha Rd, El Cajon at 11:30 a.m., Tuesday, February 10th. Join in for some good food and wonderful fellowship. For more information call either Grace Otto, 440-2456 or Nancy Funick, 561-7823.



February Anniversaries

18/ Robert & Laura Graef

February Birthdays

3/ Gerry Nelson
4/ Cole Freeman
6/ Trudy Handley
7/ Carole Dixon
13/ Jan Neuhaus
Wendy Watson
14/ Shawna Bagalini
Mark Swathwood
16/ Frank Steirer
17/ Norma Borgeson
21/ Michael Huber
22/ Vernetta Berger
Lorraine Beyer
Grace Otto
23/ Rusty Kellison
24/ Steve Lane

February Ministers

Acolyte: TBA
Assist. Minister: Leslie Atkins
Coffee Fellowship: 1/ 8/ 15/ 22/ 29/
Stephen Ministers 11/ 18/ 25 / Nancy Funick,
Laura Vaughan, Janice Davis et. al.
Communion Assist.: Laura & Mandy
Vaughan
Communion Care: Lyn & Charlotte
Arthurton
Edgemoor Hospital Worship: 22/ Florence
Hustad
Greeters: 1/ 8/ Lyn & Charlotte Arthurton
15/ 22/ 29/ Marie & Cole Freeman
Lector: 1/ 8/ Kathleen Darland 15/ 22/ 29/
Ben Timan
Nursery: TBA
Sound: 1/ Neil Johnson 8/ TBA 15/ Randy
Catron 22/ Neil Johnson 29/ TBA
Stephen Minister of the Day: 1/ Ed
Teichner 8/ Jim Thomas 15/ Bill Blue 22/
Carol Davidson 29/ Ellie Timan
Ushers: Tom Insel, June Webb, Hi-Youth,
Randie & Ericka Davis, Molly Lisowsky

CORRECTIONS To “Kick it Up a Notch” Article on p.4

Bags with a silver coin will be distributed to every person at worship on Feb. 15. It is our challenge to return those bags with 30 pieces of silver to the church on Palm Sunday, April 4th. Our goal is to raise \$3,000 in sacrificial giving during Lent. This will help us meet our budget with 10% of the money raised to be divided between Santee Food Bank and Synod Benevolence.



Financial Status

January	2003	2004
Attendance/wk	126	106
Giving	\$9,068	\$8,939
Schools/misc	\$2,056	\$2,056
Clearing Acct. loan	\$1,459	\$0
Total Income	\$12,583	\$10,995
Budget	\$12,583	\$14,500
Deficit	\$0	\$3,505



Our Sympathy To:

Bonnie (Brunk) Lawrence, Betty Pendergast and family, whose husband, son-in-law and father, Robert Lawrence, 55, passed away Saturday, January 24th of Cancer.



Moving:

Gertie Geiler and her husband Joe are moving to South Carolina. Their new address:

120 Whispering Hills Lane
Chesnee, SC 29323