

*A monthly publication of Memorial Christian Church  
in the interest of promoting the Gospel of Jesus Christ  
and goodwill among His people, our friends.*

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**Chief Shepherd**

Jesus Christ

**Pastors**

Gordon Addington  
Forrest Cotter  
Bill Sites  
Bruce Wolf

**Deacons**

James Darr  
Gene Frazier  
Bernie Hill  
Gene McCoy  
Walt McKay  
Titus Neuenschwander  
Hubert Pickett

**Secretary**

Joy Williams

**Preachers**

Gene McCoy  
Titus Neuenschwander

## *Leadership Retreat Helps Refine Church Vision*

A leadership retreat was held September 15-16, 2006 at the Scott Valley Ranch. Preachers, elders, deacons, and spouses attended the gathering to discuss vision and goals for the church. The attendees were well fed and cared for by hosts Kathleen Cooper and Cathryn Summers, who kept a continual supply of tasty delights on hand.

Specific ministries within the church were reported on and discussed, with ideas for improvement offered. Gene McCoy led a discussion on the Outreach program, observing that our ministry teams are maturing and working more independently to accomplish their tasks. He stated that, as a church, we can build on our normally friendly approach to visitors by becoming friends who genuinely demonstrate care for people. This may be expressed by offering to sit with newcomers, to share a meal with new attendees, to pray with new acquaintances about matters that concern them, or in some other way actually showing interest in who they are and becoming involved in their lives.

Titus reported on the

high school and junior high youth program, stating that of

approximately 26 children who attend on Wednesday evenings, only one child has a parent who is connected to the church. He asked for ideas and support from adults in the church to befriend these children in significant ways.

Lesli reported on the elementary youth program, indicating that the Wednesday evening program has 7-10 children in each of three classes in addition to the toddlers cared for by Miss Sandy and Miss Linda. She also reported that "His Image" will begin again for High school girls.

The Worship and Music ministry was discussed, with many complimenting the more enthusiastic congregational singing. All agreed that Kevin Cotter's percussion on drums is tastefully done and adds to the music service. It was suggested that we train the servers to also escort latecomers to their seats and that greeters be encouraged to stay in the lobby until



9:50 a.m. to greet late arrivals. The nursery service may also see

some changes by offering a teaching format for the toddlers. The proposal was made to place a changing table in the hallway, giving mothers choosing to keep their children in the worship service a place to tend to their babies without interrupting the toddler class.

Many other ideas were discussed in break-out sessions. The men discussed the relocation proposal, and the women were led in a discussion by Becky McCoy regarding the faith of a godly woman.

The attendees were asked to pray for guidance on how to better serve and evangelize our community. Bruce Wolf ended the meeting with a reminder that we should always seek the best way to advance God's kingdom in our community and that worrying is non-productive. When we comply with God's will, He will provide. Respectfully submitted, Bruce Wolf

## EVENTS THIS MONTH

6 & 7 Family Camp  
at Rock Garden  
8 Annual Business  
Meeting  
8 40th Anniversary  
Celebration  
14 Indoor Work  
Day  
14-21 Mission Trip  
to Slidell, LA

## ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION



Sunday  
October 8, 2006

### ReBirth!

*Isaac McKay experienced his RE-BIRTHDAY August 26th the day before his physical birthday when he put his trust in Jesus Christ, repented of his sin and was baptized. Praise the Lord!*

## Pastor Appreciation *by Gene McCoy*

It is impossible to express too much appreciation for people who do a good job — especially volunteers! We are very grateful to the Lord for every volunteer. But our focus every October is upon our pastors. These are men who voluntarily give their time, energy, and much prayerful thought to leading this flock.

I am happy to brag on our pastors — men who care for the flock as genuine ministers of God. In recent months these men have grown in their likeness of the Good Shepherd. I learned after the fact that they have gone to the home of a member scheduled for surgery the next day to pray with and for him. On another occasion, your pastors arranged to meet for prayer at the home of a member whose brother had died.

These men also take good care of the preachers. Power in the pulpit is generated not only by conviction on the part of the preacher, but also by the support of the elders. Our pastors (a.k.a., elders, bishops, overseers, shepherds, etc.) are very supportive of the preachers, not only by means of complimentary comments with regard to the public presentations,



Elders (left to right)  
Bruce Wolf, Gordon Addington, Forrest Cotter, Bill Sites

but also of the work ethic exhibited in daily routines.

These men have also displayed great sensitivity to the personal needs of those in their employ. I was very grateful to our elders when they insisted that Titus take his family to Branson for several days following the death of their infant son, Tyler. A few of our readers know the details of their extreme generosity and compassionate concern.

I recall with pride the consideration given to our secretary a couple years ago when heart surgery prevented her from fulfilling her duties for an extended period. Several other members voluntarily stepped in to fill the void, whose service is still recalled with gratitude.

These comprise just a sampling of our pastors' ministry to the flock, for which we all eagerly give

God praise. And we express heartfelt appreciation to these men who serve us.

We cannot conclude expressions of gratitude for our pastors without also acknowledging their greatest helpers and supporters. These are the women to whom they are married.

Not only in October, designated as "Pastor Appreciation Month," but throughout the year, we express our thanks to those who serve us in the capacity of overseer, along with the spouses.

Gordon & Louise  
Addington  
Forrest & Ivadel  
Cotter  
Bill & Belle Sites  
Bruce & Vicky Wolf

## News From the Property Ministry Team

The Property Ministry Team has been busy this summer with maintaining the flower beds, mowing the lawn, and making improvements inside and out.

The work is plentiful and the workers are few. So the Property Ministry Team could use

all workers with whatever talents you may have.

Plan to be at the next Property Ministry Team meeting on Thursday September 28, 2006 at 6:30 p.m.

Also plan to be at the next Work Days:

**Inside Work Day**  
Saturday, October 14  
8:30 a.m.



**Outside Work Day**  
Saturday, November 18  
8:30 a.m.

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the **BIG** easy  
new orleans

## Donations Needed



During the month of October the Benevolence Ministry Team will be conducting a food drive to help replenish the food supply of the local food bank. These food items should consist of canned

or boxed non-perishable food items. Boxes are set up in the foyer for these food items. Donations will be much appreciated.

Just a reminder of donations being collected for the next couple of weeks for supplies for the alternative school. These supplies should consist of: Number 2 pencils, loose leaf

notebook paper, pocket holder without clasps, notebook binders, plain black or blue without any design.



*A dozen or more volunteers from our congregation will be in Slidell, LA the week of October 14-21 to continue the reconstruction and clean-up efforts following Hurricane Katrina.*

## Family Camp This Weekend

Rock Garden Christian Family Camp  
Friday, Oct 6 - Saturday, Oct 7

Main Speaker is Matt Proctor, President of Ozark Christian College. The Anderson Brothers will lead worship for the main sessions and



give a concert on Friday night.

Activities for Children (Toddlers - Elementary School) will be provided during main sessions.

**Friday Night, Oct 6**

5-6 PM Registration  
6PM Dinner  
7 PM Main Session  
Anderson Brother's Concert Afterwards

**Saturday, Oct 7**

7 AM Coffee and Donuts  
8 AM Big Breakfast  
9 AM Main Session  
10:30 AM Main Session  
12 PM Lunch



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### Meeting Schedule

Sunday Morning	Wednesday Evening
9:30 Worship	5:30 Supper
10:45 Bible Classes	6:30 Bible Classes

The LORD'S COMMISSION is OUR MISSION  
Matthew 28:19-20

## *OCC Day at MCC*



The ultimate mission of Ozark Christian College is to glorify God by seeking the evangelization of the lost and the edification of Christians worldwide. The immediate mission of Ozark Christian College is to train men and women for Christian service through an undergraduate Bible college education.

One of two Bible colleges supported in our missions budget will be highlighted at the morning worship assembly on Sunday, October 15. Providing an update of this vital ministry of training leaders for the churches will be Monte Shoemake, Executive Director of Student Development at Ozark Christian College.

Monte will be accompanied by his wife, Shawn, who has

served by his side in his preaching ministry. The Shoemakes are not strangers to Arkansas churches, for he was the preacher for our congregation in Prairie Grove during a time of growth and transition. He also served as the president of the Arkansas Christian Convention in the early 90's.

An aspect of his ministry in Prairie Grove that is of particular

interest to us is the fact that he led them through a very productive and successful relocation project. We have asked Monte to provide some perspective for us from his experience in view of our anticipated relocation.