



South Summit Christian Church

The Messenger

July 2010

See Ya Later!...

We heard a lot of “see ya later’s” on Sunday as people didn’t want to say “good-bye” to the Westbrook family. Most of you know by now that South Summit’s beloved minister of 11 years, Steve Westbrook, has left SSCC and is heading back to St. Louis. Although his decision to leave South Summit was difficult, we can all admire his devotion to his family and know that he will extend the same care, compassion and love to them that he has given to us these past years.



In the seven weeks that took place between the announcement of his resignation and his final Sunday, June 27, there were lots of coffees, dinners and visits with lots of people. On Tuesday, June 22, SSCC planned a farewell event at Johnny Ray’s Drive-In in Lee’s Summit that was well attended, with great burgers, lots of laughs and good conversation.

Steve’s first Sunday at South Summit was on July 18, 1999. At that time, SSCC met at the Masonic Hall in Lee’s Summit. After acquiring new land on Hook Road, SSCC moved our Sunday morning worship service to Hawthorn Hill Elementary School. Steve’s vision and leadership helped us build and open our new church building for our first service in June 2007. Steve has provided South Summit with a caring, compassionate, faith-building ministry that has touched every member of our congregation, and many of their friends and families.

On Sunday, June 27, South Summit had a worship service filled with music, memories from the youth, a slide show of past events, and a presentation of a scrapbook, autograph quilt, and love offering, as well as a certificate from the New Church Ministry within the Greater Kansas City Region of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). After church, we had a potluck dinner and our “last luncheon” with the Westbrook family.

We will miss Steve and his wife, Kim, and their family, and wish them every happiness and many blessings as they move along in their life journey. As Kim always says, “more will be revealed” and we know it will be for them, as well as for South Summit!

Ralph Keller Will Continue to Serve at SSCC

Ralph and Jean Keller befriended South Summit Christian Church over 10 years ago when Ralph served on the Regional New Church Ministry Team. Ralph has been a minister for 62 years and after retiring, served as an Interim Minister in the Kansas City area. Ralph then decided to “retire” ☺ from interim ministry about 4 years ago. Since that time, and fortunate for us, Ralph has volunteered as a Minister of Outreach and Support at SSCC. Jean has long served at the Raymore Christian Church in many capacities and we have been grateful to have them both share in ministry and friendship with us these last several years.

As we transition to the interim minister (who we hope will be able to join us toward the end of August) Ralph has agreed to preach at South Summit on three Sundays and will be available to us for pastoral care. If you experience health issues, are going into the hospital or would like to speak with Ralph, contact him at 506-5739. You may also call the church office at 246-4400.



News & Notes



A Musical Note

The Messengers Youth Choir is taking a break for the summer and will resume practice in September. Many thanks to all of our talented youth and to the parents who have supported our choir this year! Our Praise Team practices on Sunday mornings at 9am. If you play an instrument or sing and would like to be a part of this lively group, please contact Bret Fischer at 554-8245.

Pastoral Care

If you are going into the hospital, are ill or need pastoral care, please contact Rev. Ralph Keller at 506-5739 or call the church office at 246-4400. We will continue to offer support and care for those in need.

Tall Oaks Gala

Mark your calendar for the Tall Oaks Gala, Friday, October 8, 2010 at the InterContinental Hotel on the Country Club Plaza! Think about how you might be able to volunteer, support the auction or attend!

How to Reach the Westbrook's

Steve and Kim Westbrook
6418 Gramond Drive
Affton, MO 63123

Kim's Cell: (816) 517-1591

Email: kawestbrook@yahoo.com

Keep Us Updated

Please send any email, address and phone number additions or changes to Diane McKee at dmckee@southsummitcc.org.

Welcome New Member...

Billy Tanui who joined the South Summit family on Sunday, June 20! We're so glad you're here!

Welcome Dr. Paul Diehl, Jr.

Dr. Diehl, Regional Minister and President of the Greater Kansas City Region of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) will be with us on Sunday, July 4, to deliver our message during worship. Don't miss Dr. Diehl's wisdom, strength and experience as he ministers to us in the very first week of our transition. Please plan to attend!

Thank you...

to Kristy Bishop, Beth Nutter and Shelly Grandon for putting together the scrapbook for the Westbrook's. It was a great overview of the last 11 years! Thank you to everyone who provided pictures for the scrapbook and the video. Thanks to Jan Nelson for putting the video together and to Bret Fischer and everyone who provided the special music! Also to Erica Davis for the autograph quilt and Diana Dill and Danet Bracken for the picture! And to Marilyn Gardner for coming with a presentation from the New Church Ministry. It was a great day and a wonderful send-off for the Westbrook family!

Christian Education is Looking Ahead!

Are you interested in being a Sunday school or Children's Church mentor? Both will reconvene on August 22, Celebration Sunday. I am always looking for interested men and woman to fill this important roll. Please let me know if you have questions or are interested. Thanks, Beth Nutter, 524-4667

Newsletter Submissions

Information to be included in the August Messenger should be submitted to Diane McKee at dmckee@southsummitcc.org no later than Wednesday, July 21.



Ministry Spotlight



Monkey Bread Fundraiser

For over nine years, South Summit has had a relationship with an orphanage in Mogilyov, Belarus where we have sent much-needed supplies including vitamins, shoes and blankets. Each year, our youth make Monkey Bread as a fundraiser for the orphanage. On June 20, the youth sold the Monkey Bread and made \$575.00 which will be sent to the orphanage in the fall. By early December, we will get photos and a receipt for the items that were purchased with this money. There are 150 babies, ages 0-4 years, housed in this facility and we are one of two groups that provide outside assistance throughout the year. Thank you so much for your donation to help these children!

We Had A Galactic Blast!

We just completed our 4th year of Vacation Bible School and it was indeed a blast. Galactic Blast was a great theme where we learned about our amazing universe and our amazing God. We had 31 kids attend and over 28 youth and adults help throughout the week. The kids brought in food for the food bank and toys for Lee's Summit Social Services to help with our mission project. Thanks to all who donated food and craft supplies. Thanks to all parents who brought their kids and their friends and neighbors.

The SSCC Worship Ministry Team would like to say a huge thank you to Steve and Kim Westbrook. The Worship Team has had the pleasure of working with Steve in planning worship services at South Summit, bringing inspiration, guidance, and hope for all that we do in worship. Ideas that he has shared have been a spring board of brainstorming for our group as we meet each month. Our hope with each Sunday worship and special service, is that God's word touches each person in some way, through our prayers, God's outreach, and God's guiding hand as we go through our day. Steve's ministry has brought us understanding of God's word and how to use those thoughts in our daily lives.

Steve's dedication to serve South Summit in his ministry will be sorely missed. He has given us a grand example of what it means to be in God's service.

Kim and the family have been a delightful addition to our congregational family. Kim has helped with numerous activities, especially with the Christian Education Ministry Team. Her smile and wonderful ideas, and generous gift of time will be missed.

We will miss the Westbrook family and wish them God's Speed in the next chapter of their life's journey. Steve has left us with some wonderful hope and inspiration for the next exciting steps of our growth at South Summit. Let us keep "the Advent Heart" in our thoughts, hearts, and prayers for South Summit and the Westbrook family.

*The South Summit CC Worship Ministry Team
Bret Fischer, Mark McKee, Rita Boswell, Kath Wickman*

Interim Minister Update

On June 14 and 15, we interviewed two candidates, one each day. We asked each of the candidates for writing samples and audio samples of past sermons. At this time, information has been given to the Leadership Circle and is being reviewed.

The Interim Search Committee will keep you "in the loop" as information is available! The following article is reprinted from The Association of Disciples Intentional Interim Ministers webpage:

Help!!!...Our Pastor is Leaving!

So your pastor is leaving - or has left. It happens sooner or later in every congregation. It is not an easy experience. You may be experiencing many feelings, among them uncertainty, anger, frustration, grief, concern about the future for your church and even panic.

- How will you go about calling a new pastor?
- How long will it take?
- Who will lead worship and care for the congregation until a new pastor is called?

These are but a few of the questions that your congregation must answer. But you can rest assured that:

- This is NOT the end of your church!
- Help is available to provide leadership during this interim time!
- Help is available to assist your congregation in search for and calling its next pastor!

That help comes in the form of an Intentional Interim Minister.

What Is An "Intentional Interim Minister"?

The word interim means in between. In the church's life, it refers to that period of time between the leaving of one installed pastor and the coming of the next. Ordained Ministers who are called to serve churches during the interim period are referred to as Interim Ministers.

In addition to their basic seminary preparation, some ordained ministers have received special education and training in "Intentional Interim Ministry." In addition to doing all of the usual pastoral duties they provide leadership to help a congregation:

- Work thru grief, anger and/or sadness over a pastor's leaving
- Deal with conflict and/or specific problems
- Rediscover its mission and renew its resources
- Set new directions and goals for ministry
- Prepare for the coming of the next pastor

Youth News

The summer is in full swing! It is the middle of camp season, vacation times and mission trips!! I am counseling 8ers camp and directing Day Camp 2, then taking a group on the first CYF Mission Trip in July. I'm not currently planning any special events for the youth groups this month but will have more fun things in August and then transition NEW members to the CYF group and NEW members to the Y-Life group!!

On July 17, the CYF will go on their very first MISSION TRIP! We will leave at 3:00pm on Saturday, July 17 to begin our journey to Lake Charles, LA. In honor of the trip, we are having a Mission Trip Send-Off! We will have containers by the entrance of the church every Sunday until we leave for donations of non-perishable foods for us to take on the trip with us! Some suggestions are Cheez-Its, Granola Bars, Chex Mix, Sun Chips, Cereal, Pop Tarts, Crackers, Fruit Snacks, Beef Jerky, Chips, and Gatorade/Powerade for the hot Louisiana weather. There are ten people going on the mission trip including Kevin and Diana Dill, Shelby Blair, Nick Pemberton, Jamie Castillo-Jolly, Jordan Surber, Caitlin Blair, Derek Garvin, Alex Nutter and me. I am so excited and feel blessed to have such an amazing group for our very FIRST CYF Mission Trip!

If you are interested in keeping up with what we are doing and even seeing some pictures during the week of the mission trip, I have created a blog! Just go to SouthSummitCYF@blogspot.com and we will take turns journaling and posting pictures about our experiences.

As always, please know that I am here and available if anyone has any questions or would like to become more involved with the youth programs at South Summit. We are going through many changes right now, but my goal is to still create a loving environment of spiritual growth for the youth of South Summit!

Blessings, Sara

Looking Who's Coming...

During our transition from Steve to our new Interim Minister, we will have a great presence during worship. The following have agreed to deliver our messages during July and August:

- July 4 Dr. Paul Diehl, Jr.
- July 11 Bret Fischer
- July 18 Rev. Ralph Keller
- July 25 Bob Hambrecht
- Aug. 1 Rev. Ralph Keller
- Aug. 8 Sara Wilcox and the Youth
from the Mission Trip
- Aug. 15 Rev. Ralph Keller

Financials in Brief...

	May 2010
Actual Income	\$ 77,475.71
Actual Expenses	<u>88,901.69</u>
	\$ (11,425.98)

South Summit Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)
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July 2010

July 4, 11, 18 & 25	Praise Team practice @ the Church	9:00 am
July 7	Nurture Ministry Team @ the Church	6:30 pm
July 7	Stewardship Ministry Team @ the Church	6:45-8:15 pm
July 12	Leadership Circle @ the Church	7:00 pm
July 17-24	Youth Mission Trip	
July 19	Pastoral Partners @ the Church	6:30 pm
July 21	Mission Ministry Team @ the Church	7:00 pm

Sunday Worship 10:00 A.M. ~ Sunday School for all ages 9:00 A.M.

Staff: Rev. Steve Westbrook, Pastor
Rev. Ralph Keller, Minister, Outreach and Support
Bret Fischer, Director of Music

Sara Wilcox, Youth Director
Diane McKee, Communications Coordinator

Visit our web site: www.southsummitcc.org