



## Connections

Issue: # 1

January 2010

As many of you know, our Children's and Women's Ministry director Karen Shelly has taken a voluntary layoff to help with the financial status at ESC. We want to reassure everyone that leadership teams are in place to allow these ministries to continue. Karen assures us that she will remain at East Swamp to fellowship and volunteer alongside us.

This month we are taking a closer look at Women's Ministries. There are pictures below highlighting previous Women's Retreats. As always, we encourage you to check out the links throughout this newsletter. Clicking on them will give you the ability to contact people and provide access to the East Swamp Church website, the Student Ministry website, information on E-Giving and more! We encourage you to forward this email to your friends and family.

### Children's Ministries

#### *Children Connect at East Swamp Church!*

The Children's Ministry Leadership Team consists of Phyllis Auckland, Susan Awgul, Kevin Henderson, Camille Moyer, Kathy van den Burg, Candy Walck, and Carole Waterman.

The entire Children's Ministry program was highlighted in the November issue of Connections. Anyone who would like to receive a copy of the November 23rd issue of Connections should contact the church office:

[Church Office](#)

### Women's Ministries

*Women ministering to women to know and grow in Christ.*

**Click here to check out the East Swamp Church website!**

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#### July Plate & Envelope Giving

For the month:  
Budget \$64,340

Women have a variety of opportunities to connect with one another. Get to know women of like interest in one of the groups below.

The Women's Ministry Board consists of:

Alice Bishop - Coordinator  
Sandy Fromknecht - Special Events/Fellowship  
Cindy Gahman - Serving/Hospitality  
Ruthie Mumbauer - Missions  
Kate Schmidt - Bible Study

## Mom2Mom

*"A great time of fellowship for moms to get together!"*

"Therefore, encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing."

- 1 Thessalonians 5:11

The women have a continental breakfast every month, they make crafts, and talk together. Click below to check out the online link to register today!

[Click here for the online website and download your brochure and registration form today!](#)

[Contact the church office](#)

## Women's Bible Study

*We invite all women to join us in studying the incredible words of truth found in God's Scripture.*

"Do your best to present yourself to God as one who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth."

- 2 Timothy 2:15

## Winter - Spring 2010

**Wednesday Evenings 6:45 to 8:00**

**Seeking Him by Nancy Leigh Demoss & Tim Grissom - cost: \$17**

**Leader: Cheryl Gysi**

This 12 week interactive study is designed to lead you into a revived relationship with our loving heavenly Father. God wants to reveal Himself to you; He wants to fill your heart with Himself; He wants to set you free from every unholy passion; He wants you to drink deeply of the joys found in His presence; He wants your service for Him to be the overflow of genuine love and an authentic life; He wants you to be a reflector of His glory in our dark world. He wants you - and His entire church - to be revived. This excellent study is for all women who are committed to seeking God for revival in their lives.

\* Childcare and Children's Clubs are available during this time.

[Contact Cheryl Gysi](#)

**Thursday Mornings 9:30 to 11:30**

**Daniel by Beth Moore**

**Leader: Kate Schmidt**

Offering \$72,070  
Difference (\$7,730)

Year to Date:  
Budget \$715,671  
Offering \$772,074  
Difference  
(\$56,403)



## Sweetheart Banquet

Saturday, February 13

Sign up now in the  
Family Life Center!

## Junior High Winter Retreat

Sign up today in the  
church office!



This years Junior Higher's will go to the Camp of the Old Mill on February 12 - 14.

Registration and payments are due by Monday, February 8th.

Just as the prophet Daniel faced unbelievable pressure to compromise his faith in a hostile culture and was constantly confronted by temptations and threats, today's believers face similar trials.

The first part of this 12 session study, taken from Daniel chapters 1 - 6, deals with Daniel's life as he faced the kind of pressures and temptations Christians encounter today. Daniel models how to develop enduring integrity in an enticing world. The second portion, chapters 7 - 12, explores thrilling prophecies from the time of Daniel through the second coming of Christ. Come to this incredible study prepared to LEARN!

\* Childcare is available during this time.

[Contact Kate Schmidt](#)

### Thursday Evenings 7:00 to 8:30

**Stepping Up: A Journey Through the Psalms of Ascent by Beth Moore - continuing from the Fall 2009 study. Cost: \$13**

**Leader: Bobbie Oetzel**

This study is an in-depth look at 15 Psalms. Just as a song or poem can express feelings of fear, doubt, hope, and joy, these 15 psalms model how study participants can voice their own petitions and praises to our God, who is always available and ready to hear us. Explore the major feasts of Israel and journey with Beth through Psalms 120-134 in this 7-session study. Themes such as unity, joy and gratitude, redemption, repentance, the power of blessings, facing ridicule, and more are explored in detail. Modern-day believers can learn much from these treasured Psalms in their journey toward greater intimacy with God.

[Contact Bobbie Oetzel](#)

\* No Childcare is available.

[For more information about East Swamp's Women's Bible Study program on the church website!](#)

[Contact the Church Office to Register](#)

## Women's Retreat

***Start planning now!***

This years retreat will be April 9 - 11 at Camp Hebron with guest speaker Deb Turnow. We will be studying "Trust and Surrender". Look for pictures below from the past 3 years Women's Retreats. Watch for details to register soon!

[Click here for more information about the Women's Retreat on the website.](#)

## Quilters

***Come and go as you are able, bring your lunch, and enjoy a time of fellowship!***

Quilters meet on Tuesday's. Experienced and inexperienced workers are welcomed. They meet most of the day, from 9:00 to 4:00 as they are available. Some quilt, some tie knots, there is something for everyone..

The Annual Congregational Meeting was held Monday, January 25th. It was well attended and filled with a good deal of discussion on the many



## Haiti Earthquake Relief

*"Your financial contributions can make a long and short term difference to those who were affected by the earthquake."*

Click on the following links to find out more on how to make donations:



[Servant Match](#)



[Mennonite Disaster Service through Mennonite Central Committee](#)



## Crossroads Pregnancy

financial aspects of the church. In addition to the reduction in salaries with Karen Shelly stepping down, many other areas were reduced including the Mission Budget, Staff Tuition, Program Expenses, and more. Steve Schmidt gave a brief summary regarding what the potential renovations may look like and how this will not impact the budget but will draw from the allocated building fund. Prior to closing the meeting, Pastor Gary announced that Pastor Drew will be taking a sabbatical this summer.

We encourage all of those who attended the Annual Meeting to remember to see Cora Myers or Maureen Gerhart in the lobby on Sunday to vote on this years budget.

**Sincerely,**

Pastor Drew Gysi  
East Swamp Church

## Care's Change for Life Bottle Collection

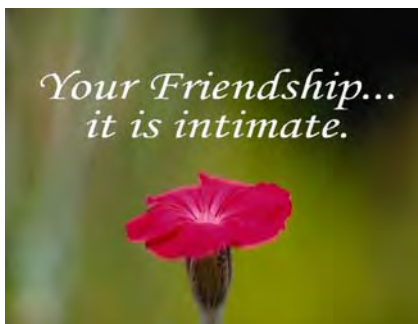
*The collection deadline is  
February 21!*

Please bring your bottles (filled or unfilled) to church and leave them in the collection boxes in the foyer. Thank you for supporting Life!



## Pic Page

### Women's Retreats



## Baked Goods Ministry

*Available daily in the  
foyer!*

East Swamp Church has obtained the privilege of being a baked goods vendor. These items are used for ministry here at church on Wednesday evenings, Sunday mornings, and other occasions in between. In addition to our many events, extra breads and pastries can be picked up in the foyer during regular office hours. Many of us use these items as an outreach to families in need, to compliment a meal we are taking to someone, or in our homes for our families.

A special thank you to Cora Myers for organizing this new ministry!



## Looking Ahead...

### February

8 Senior Adult Jamboree

12-14 Jr. High Retreat

13 Sweetheart Banquet

22 Mom2Mom

### March

8 Senior Adult Jamboree

22 Mom2Mom

### April

2 Good Friday

3 Easter Hatch

4 Easter Sunday

9-11 Women's Retreat

12 Senior Adult Jamboree

19 Mom2Mom

28 Last night of Clubs

## Quick Links

[East Swamp Website](#)

[Student Website](#)

[E-Giving](#)

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