

Pastor's Corner

Greetings in the name of Jesus Christ,

No doubt we're all wondering if fall will ever arrive. While the hot weather keeps our minds thinking it's still summer, the calendar reminds us that cooler weather is around the corner. My mind, however, is not on the weather, but, rather, on all the activities coming up in October.

By now, hopefully, everyone has received a phone call inviting you to the "Embrace the Future Banquet". I hope you have marked your calendar (**October 10th at 6:00 p.m.**) and plan to attend. As a church, this is a time for us to celebrate our past, reminisce about the present, but **GET SERIOUS ABOUT THE FUTURE.**

This banquet is the best way to inform our church family of the plans we have for a Christian Life Center. We don't want to build just a building—we want to complete a vision to reach out and to serve. We are excited about how God has blessed us as a church. At the banquet, we will hear from people who have witnessed God working through Ebenezer over the years; and we will share how God is presently working through Ebenezer. Yet we feel God has greater work ahead for us as his church. To accomplish this task, we must expand so that we can provide space for ministries.

We are in need of more classrooms, especially on the ground level. We need a larger space to gather for meals. We need a place where we can gather for one meeting. We need a place for play programs, and a place for young people to gather. We need a place so that we may continue to grow. Soon, we will need to renovate the sanctuary, and we will need a place to meet while the work is being done.

I hope that you have been praying about this and that you will continue to pray for guidance and direction. On October 10th, you will be asked for an "Estimate of Giving" that will go to the building fund to bring this vision to completion. **DO NOT** let this be a stumbling block. Everyone can be a part of this whether you are able to give 5 cents or 5 million. The USS North Carolina battleship was purchased with milk money. Every gift is important. It is not the gift but the **HEART OF THE GIVER** that matters to God. Remember the story of the widow's mite. Whether you give or not, we want you to come and fellowship and have an opportunity to learn a little more concerning your church.

I want to thank you with all my heart for allowing me to be a part of your lives. God has blessed me greatly through you and I know that together God will continue to bless. I look forward to serving as your pastor next year and, God willing, for years to come.

God Bless,
Rev. Eric Lane – October 2007