

## FINANCIALS

### Weekly Contribution Update

Total 2011 Missions .....\$102,548

#### Contribution for January, 2012

Jan 1 ..... \$10,772

Jan 8 ..... \$22,293

Jan 15 ..... \$16,220

Jan 22 ..... \$15,756

Jan Average..... \$16,260

Weekly Budget ..... \$17,000

2012 Missions ..... \$2,323

### DID YOU KNOW YOU CAN GIVE WEEKLY AND BENEVOLENCE CONTRIBUTIONS BY USING AUTOMATIC DRAFT?

Call the church office at 704-342-1099 ext. 9, send an email to [dshytle@thecharlottechurch.org](mailto:dshytle@thecharlottechurch.org). You can also download the auto-draft form at [thecharlottechurch.org](http://thecharlottechurch.org) / "Resources." Email form to Diane to be processed.

#### THE CHARLOTTE CHURCH ELDERS

Ad Brown.....[adbrown@thecharlottechurch.org](mailto:adbrown@thecharlottechurch.org)

Phil Fisher.....[philfisher@thecharlottechurch.org](mailto:philfisher@thecharlottechurch.org)

Patric Morris.....[patricmorris@thecharlottechurch.org](mailto:patricmorris@thecharlottechurch.org)

David Raye.....[davidraye@thecharlottechurch.org](mailto:davidraye@thecharlottechurch.org)

#### THE CHARLOTTE CHURCH MINISTRY LEADERS

Ron & Lavonia Drabot.....[rondrabot@thecharlottechurch.org](mailto:rondrabot@thecharlottechurch.org)

Corrie & Stefanie McClary.....[corriemcclary@thecharlottechurch.org](mailto:corriemcclary@thecharlottechurch.org)

Frank & Tammica Dowd.....[frankdowd@thecharlottechurch.org](mailto:frankdowd@thecharlottechurch.org)



### MISSION STATEMENT

**"TO KNOW, TO GROW, TO SHOW & TO GO"**

Visit our website: [thecharlottechurch.org](http://thecharlottechurch.org), "About Us". If you're interested in one of our ministries or in becoming a member, ask the person who invited you today or contact a ministry leader.

## Sunday, January 29, 2012

Church Office

1200 South Graham

Charlotte, NC 28230

Mailing Address:

PO Box 3015

Charlotte, NC 28230

Phone# 704-342-1099

Fax # 704-342-1235

To post a bulletin announcement for next week, send an email to [churchannouncements@yahoo.com](mailto:churchannouncements@yahoo.com), by NOON, EVERY Wednesday. Please include your full name and region. For other church information, check out our website, [www.thecharlottechurch.org](http://www.thecharlottechurch.org)

You can also stay connected by joining the Church Yahoo Groups -

To join—send an email to:

- [DisciplesLink-subscribe@yahoo.com](mailto:DisciplesLink-subscribe@yahoo.com)— post church-wide prayers requests, church and member needs, etc.
- [CharlotteTeens@yahoo.com](mailto:CharlotteTeens@yahoo.com)— Teen and Family Ministry communication

## CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

**FINANCIAL WORKSHOP:** Sat., Feb 4 10:00am-12:00pm at the Church Office. Topics: budgeting, debt reduction, home purchase, saving and investing. Contact: David Raye, 704-536-0755 or George Violante, 704-577-3301 for additional information.

**MARRIED MIDWEEK SERIES:** beginning February at the Church Office from 7-8 pm. No Child care available.

Feb 2...Men; Feb 9...Women

Feb 16...Men; Feb 23... Women

Mar 1...Men; Mar 8...Women

Mar 15...Men; Mar 22...Women

May 3....Men; May 8...Women

May 17...Men; May 24 ...Women

May 31...Men; Jun 7...Women

**ELDER'S LETTER TO THE CHARLOTTE CHURCH** can be accessed online at <http://thecharlottechurch.org/>

**MARRIEDS'S DATE NIGHT & POTLUCK:** Sat. Feb 25, 6:30-10:00 pm at the Church office, 1200 South Graham. Grab your sweetheart for a night of fun games, food and dancing. No childcare provided. Sign-up sheet will be available Sun., Jan 29. For more information, contact Lucy Ward at 704-573-6598.

### RYAN KAILBOURNE'S GROOM HONORING

**FELLOWSHIP:** Friday, Feb 3, 8:30 pm at Dave and Busters in the Concord Mill Mall. Married men, bring one bit of marital advice and something that represents that advice. Single Men, please offer one thought on what you hope your future marriage will be like.

### CONGRATULATIONS TO LUTHER & TIYOKA

**PHIFER:** Zion was born on Wed, Jan 25. She is 6lb, 14oz. Zion and Mom are doing well.

**HAVE A SPANISH-SPEAKING FRIEND INTERESTED IN STUDYING THE BIBLE IN SPANISH?** Contact Bernardo & Minerva Caceres at 803-829-8020 or anyone in our Latino Ministry.

**For information on middle school, teen, campus and singles ministries and mid-week schedules** go to [thecharlottechurch.org](http://thecharlottechurch.org)

**MOVED OR CHANGED YOUR PHONE NUMBER?** Send your name change, new address, phone number and email address to the church office at 704-342-1099 ext. 9 or on-line, at [thecharlottechurch.org/updates/updateinfo.asp](http://thecharlottechurch.org/updates/updateinfo.asp).

## CALENDAR

Upcoming services, meeting or events.

<b>Sun. Feb 5 2012</b> <b>10:00 am</b>	Congregational Service Northwest School of the Arts 1415 Beatties Ford Rd.
<b>Sun. Feb 12, 2012</b> <b>10:00 am</b>	Congregational Service Northwest School of the Arts 1415 Beatties Ford Rd.
<b>Sun. Feb. 19, 2012</b> <b>10:00 am</b>	Congregational Service CPCC Halton Theater 1206 Elizabeth Ave.
<b>Sun. Feb 26, 2012</b> <b>10:00 am</b>	Congregational Service Northwest School of the Arts 1415 Beatties Ford Rd.

## PRAYER, CARE AND CONCERN

Please keep these families in your prayers

**GWEN PORTER'S MOTHER JES-TINE RHODES.** was admitted to Richland Memorial Hospital in Columbia. Send cards to 416 Slipstream Lane, Chapin, SC 29036.

**NORTHWEST SCHOOL OF THE ARTS; PRINCIPAL, DR. BARRY BOWE.** passed away on Mon, Jan 23.

**WINDY HUNT'S FATHER.** passed away on Wed, Jan 25.

**PAT MORRIS** as she recovers from surgery.

**LISA FISCHER'S** grandfather passed away over the holidays.

**CLASSIE WORTHY'S SISTER BETTIE HOUSTON** is home recovering, but still on dialysis doing amazingly well.

**GLORIA KELLEY'S SISTER-IN-LAW PATRICE PALMER** has been diagnosed with cancer.

**FRANCES MASSEY'S SISTER DON-NA HUBERT** was diagnosed with a rare form of Leukemia in Dec 2010. Pray for her to stay in remission so she can be a candidate for a bone marrow transplant.

**KISHA, THE DAUGHTER OF BE-LYNDA JONES.** has been diagnosed with a very painful medical condition.

**GLENNA ALCERRO'S NIECE, SHAZI.** continues treatments for leukemia. Shazi is Glenna's brother's step-daughter. To encourage Glenna and her family, email [grobriin@juno.com](mailto:grobriin@juno.com).

**TRACY ESPY'S SISTER DEONNE WILLIS** for comfort and healing. Send notes to [www.caringbridge.org/visit/deonnewillis](http://www.caringbridge.org/visit/deonnewillis).

**SHARLENE HORTON'S HUSBAND, JEMAL HORTON.** who suffers from diabetes and other health complications

## Elder's Letter to the Church – January 2012

As this new year begins, we are excited to share with you the progress that is being made as we all seek to restore the fire and vitality that God desires for His church. We thank God for each of you. Your incredible examples of love and service increase our faith every day. In spite of personal losses, financial hardships, interruptions and stresses resulting from employment challenges and military service, you have remained faithful disciples of Christ in expectation of better days ahead. We truly believe that God has a great year in store for The Charlotte Church and we look forward to laboring beside each of you as we plant seeds of faith where God leads us.

In his first letter to the Corinthians, Paul emphasized that “each one should build with care” on the foundation of Jesus Christ and that “fire will test the quality of each person’s work”. In recent years, our church has faced the flames of organizational and financial challenges while feeling the heat of fires that would divide or distract us from our purpose. Last year, our “spiritual building” was a little singed and worn but our foundation remained strong. Our thanks go out to those who have labored so hard to maintain it and it is on this strong foundation that we will build in 2012. Here are some of the measures that have been taken or that will be implemented in the coming months as we build together:

### **Vision Statement**

We began the building process by unifying on a Vision. We commend our first Elders for their wisdom and leadership as they related our Mission Statement : “To know, To grow, To show, and To go” to Jesus’ Great Commission (Matthew 28:18-20). Our Vision Statement is foundational to that Mission as it is borrowed from God’s greatest commands: To love God with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength and to love your neighbor as yourself (Mark 12:30-31). This call to genuine and devoted love for God, for each other, and for a hurting world impacts every decision and action we make.

### **Financial Stewardship**

With the help of the Board, we established a budget for this year that holds our operating expenses within the level of income from weekly contributions. Our goal is to ensure each ministry and program is properly funded without drawing from our cash reserves or funds reserved for future facilities. It is our conviction that, in addition to setting a pattern of operating within our means, it is important to establish a balanced budget trend should we ever need to seek a loan for facilities or line of credit for other contingencies.

As fellow stewards of God’s blessings, we encourage you to renew your conviction to give sacrificially and consistently. In these tough economic times, we have all felt challenged to maintain let alone raise our level of giving. We recognize that financial stress can damage us both spiritually and relationally. For that reason, we will be offering a series of financial workshops throughout the year so that we all can grow in skill, confidence, and conviction in this area.

### **Ministry Restructure**

Regretfully, the new budget realities made it necessary to reduce full-time staff. We are working diligently with the Drabots and McClarys as they restructure our ministry and leadership teams. New leadership positions are rapidly being filled with devoted and talented part-time workers and volunteers. Be ready for the call!

We are committed to making **Worship** a ministry of equal importance to our other ministries. The Drabots are providing leadership and oversight of this ministry and have appointed Rob Tull to lead the song worship, with Ian Cameron, and Tammica Dowd assisting. We are grateful to have Joel Shytle and Marvin Espy, to name a few, continuing to serve in this vital ministry.

The Drabots are also leading the **Campus and Singles Ministries** and are recruiting many spiritually mature and talented disciples to assist with these groups. The names and details will be forthcoming very soon.

The **Marrieds and Youth** ministries are led by the McClarys. Having formerly served as Region leaders and Teen leaders, they are uniquely gifted to help strengthen marriages and families. They are being assisted by Frank

and Tammica Dowd. A variety of family groups are being formed and we look forward to seeing those in action beginning in February.

We can't leave this subject without mention of our incredible **Kid's Kingdom**. Last year, the introduction of a new curriculum received enthusiastic feedback from our teachers. We wish to thank the incredible group of volunteers that has maintained this ministry at a high level for so many years. Our commitment to you is to keep searching for the best and most stable facilities to help your ministry thrive. Keep up your hope and your prayers as we continue our search.

The Elders will be providing support to each of the above ministries and will also spearhead a new ministry inspired by the example of **Stephanas** (1 Cor. 16:14-16). As the congregation has aged, our needs have become more diverse and complex. Many have physical needs that challenge participation in the mainstream of our church activities. Others are suffering from emotional, psychological, or financial trauma that is impacting them spiritually. While we cannot take the place of trained professionals, we can provide consistent support and encouragement. Many of you have tender hearts that are moved by these circumstances and we ask you to contact any of the Elders if you wish to serve or to learn more about this new ministry.

### **Spiritual Training and Maturing**

Growth in Biblical knowledge and application to real-life issues is essential to our individual and collective spiritual health. Therefore we are formulating a series of workshops ranging from dating, marriage and parenting to chemical recovery and finances. Additionally, we will be developing a Deep Convictions series to help us all toward unity and spiritual maturity. All you Bible scholars, this is your call!

### **Volunteer appointments and coordination**

To progress toward our Vision, we will require a stronger volunteer commitment than the church has seen in many years. We realize that your service as a volunteer implies the need for clear communication, definition of responsibilities, authority to make decisions, and constructive review and evaluation. The Elders are working with the Staff, Board, and Administrator to refine our methods of orientation, training, and communication to create a more enriching experience for each volunteer. Additionally, we hope to appoint Deacons in several areas of service before the conclusion of the year.

### **Facilities**

A Facilities Committee chaired by Chip Tanner was created within the Board of Directors to lead the facilities initiative. The Committee has engaged the service of a commercial realty professional and is actively searching for a suitable property. The Elders have provided a set of objectives to aid the Committee as it searches for land and/or a building to purchase that will ultimately host us for congregational services. To date, more than a dozen properties have been considered but they have yet to find the right fit. Pray that God will lead them to the place where His vision can be fulfilled!

### **Communication**

We have asked Gloria Kelley, Board of Directors' Chair of the Communications Committee to focus attention on the look and function of our Bulletin and Website to make it easier for everyone to access important information and announcements. The new bulletin is already a great success and the soon to be launched Website "makeover" will blow you away! So please keep checking in and give us your feedback!

To close, our heart's desire is that each of you will find spiritual fulfillment in this new year as we all work together - glorifying God by taking care of one-another. Jesus said it best in John 13:34-35, "Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."

With love in Christ, your brothers Patric, David, Phil, and Ad