

# The South Louisville Christian Church

**SOUTH LOUISVILLE CHRISTIAN CHURCH**  
**FALL, 2014 – EDITION SIX, ISSUE EIGHT**  
*A Christian Church for South Louisville*

**E-NEWSLETTER**

## SLCC's 112<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration

The 112th anniversary of South Louisville Christian Church will be celebrated in style on Sunday, October 19th! So please begin now inviting your friends, family and neighbors.

Every Sunday is great at SLCC, but this Sunday will be especially great! Bob Russell, retired Southeast Christian Church minister will deliver our message, the Master's Men Choir will be singing, and Ron and Lynette Davidson will be leading our praise and worship time. And, if that wasn't enough, we will have a carry-in dinner immediately after the service so that we can spend time together with our old and new friends! But what will really make this day special, is you! It just won't be the same without you!

### Who's In Charge?

**“ . . .we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ. From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.” Eph. 4:15,16**

Paul used the analogy of a body to explain how the church fits and works together (he goes into even greater detail in 1 Corinthians 12:12-26). To be at our best, all our parts must not only work properly, but work properly together! We often take some of our parts for granted because they work quietly and consistently--it is not until something goes wrong that we realize just how much we need each of them when something is wrong with one or more of the parts of our body, it can cause the whole body to be dysfunctional (a toothache for example)!

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## This Fall's Events

- Sept. 13 & 27, Oct. 11 & 25, Nov. 8 & 22 – Food Distribution
- Sept. 20, Fall Festival, 1 – 4 PM
- Sept. 26, Oct. 24, Nov. 21 – Craft Night
- Oct. 17 & 18 – 24 Hours of Prayer
- Oct. 19 – 112<sup>th</sup> Anniversary
- Oct. 31 – Trunk or Treat
- Nov. 27 – Thanksgiving Dinner to the Community
- Nov. 29 – Hanging of the Greens, 10:00 AM

### Food Pantry Needs:

Bar Soap  
Pancake Mix

*(Place donations in the bin in the coffee area at the church).*

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Each part of the body has its own task or work to do and must work with and help the other parts--if your thumbs stop helping your fingers you would have trouble doing almost everything. The "Body" of Christ is the church, which is made up of many parts (people). Jesus Christ is the head and it is His direction that guides the church. Many denominational churches have central headquarters that direct the work and actions of all of the churches of that denomination. South Louisville Christian Church is an "independent, non-denominational" Christian Church--so what does that mean? It means that South Louisville Christian Church does not require the approval from any other organization. We receive our guidance from the Bible, and Christ is the head of SLCC.

There are roles set out in Scripture that are necessary within each church, these all are under the oversight of the SLCC elders. The elders/shepherds "direct the affairs of the church" (1 Tim. 5:17). To ensure elders take this responsibility seriously, Scripture warns that they "keep watch over you as men who must give an account." (Hebrews 13:17). This is a responsibility that every elder of SLCC takes to heart when he is ordained to serve.

At the end of 2013 SLCC members approved the updated by-laws that aligned SLCC more closely to the guidelines of Scripture. The Elder Board has assigned and delegated duties and responsibilities so that each part of the body knows what its work is and to whom they are accountable.

Every SLCC ministry is assigned specific responsibilities, and is accountable to the Elder Board, who are accountable to Jesus. We believe this step lays the foundation for the growth that SLCC will experience in the coming years!

In many smaller churches the senior minister is expected to know, do and be all things to all people. Until this thought process changes, the church is restricted to the size that one man can handle--not to mention that it may eventually wear him out trying to meet everyone's needs and expectations.

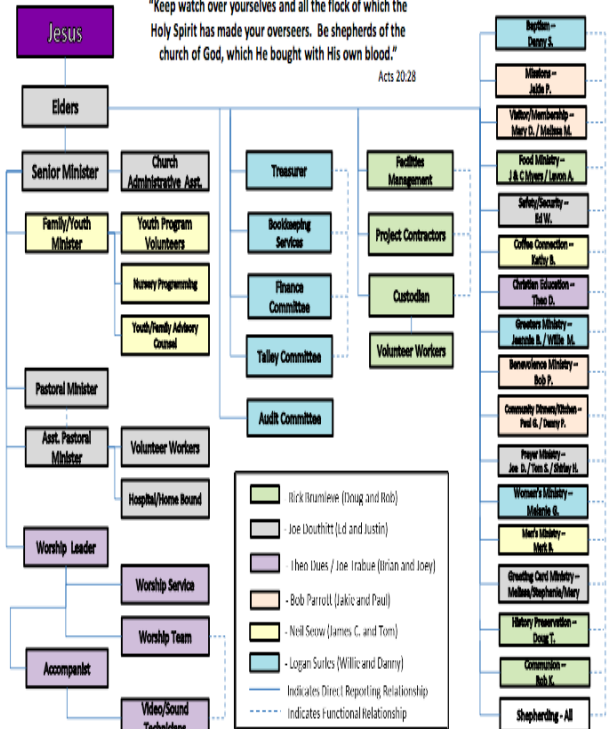
The "arrangement of the body" that SLCC now has in place establishes "Ministries" that each have a designated "lead" person. Each month each of these ministry lead persons make reports to the Elder Board to explain their progress and to request assistance and guidance where needed.

Each elder serves as an advisor to several ministries, and has two deacons assigned to them to assist in carrying out their duties. The deacons are mentored by their elder and are assigned specific duties and are expected to set examples as servants of the church.

What are the ministries of SLCC? Who are the lead persons and to whom do they report? It is surprising when you realize just how many parts (separate ministries) it takes to make SLCC function! The best way we have found to show their relationships is in an "organizational chart." Each block is a person, ministry or function--the lines connect them to whom they are accountable.

## The SLCC Overseers

"Keep watch over yourselves and all the flock of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers. Be shepherds of the church of God, which He bought with His own blood."  
Acts 20:28



There is a large printed version of this chart in the church office, as well as on the church [website](#) (click on word "website" to connect).

God has given every Christian one or more spiritual gifts that He intends to be used to bless others. "There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them. There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work." (1 Cor. 12:4-6). If one or more of the ministries of SLCC pulls on your heart you may want to speak with the lead person or elder over that ministry area and let them know of your desire or interest to serve. They will be able to give you specific details on what the requirements of the ministry are and how you could serve.

In the event that you ever experience a problem or difficulty as a member of SLCC the leadership wants to ensure we adequately provide you guidance and pastoral care in every stage of your life. You may have a favorite elder with whom you feel comfortable talking when you have a question, issue or problem, and that is wonderful if you have that relationship. If you are not sure with whom to speak, you may talk with any one of the elders, ministers or the church office.

Each of the elders and ministers cannot possibly know every detail of every ministry, but they will know who does and will help you figure out to whom you need to speak or meet. Your conversation could go something like this, "Hey, elder Joe I'd like to help prepare communion on Sunday mornings is that okay with you?" Elder Joe: "Thank you, that's great, I would suggest you talk with Rob Kallam, he is the lead person for that ministry."

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While Joe is concerned with you, your spiritual growth and getting people involved in ministry--he can best demonstrate it by getting you to the person who can help you the most with your request! If you need to talk with the elder of that ministry, the SLCC organizational chart would show you that Rick Brumleve oversees the Communion Ministry.

The church organization chart shows that each ministry is accountable to someone, who in turn is accountable to the elders who are accountable to Jesus. This allows South Louisville Christian Church to function effectively as the Body of Christ **“From Him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.”**

Jesus is and will always be in charge here!

## Greetings from the Family Ministry

*By: Ron Matthews*

I would like to start by thanking everyone at SLCC for their patience and kindness of their support for the Family Ministry. Our Fall schedule will start with a community outreach project that will be held outside. We are calling it the Community Fall Festival. We are targeting families and young children in the area around the church. We are expecting a total of around 200 people for this event. The event will take place on September the 20 from 1-4pm. There will be games, food, prizes and a raffle for those attending. Our Leadership has offered to be here to meet and communicate our mission to the many visitors that we will have at this event.

Our second planned event that will be taking place is our annual Trunk--n--Treat community event. In case you are new or missed last year's event, we reached out to the community and gave them a safe place to trick and treat with their children. This year we are planning the same event on Halloween night, October the 31<sup>st</sup> from 6:30-?.

If you would like to participate in this one of a kind social and outreach event, watch the Connect Point for a sign-up sheet coming soon. What you will need to bring is your car or a neighbor's (get their permission first), at least 4 bags of candy and a not so scary costume along with decorations for your car and trunk. I look forward to working with this wonderful church family during these and future events.

**Parents and Grandparents** -- read our youth web page monthly for upcoming events. You can see the youth site by going to the SLCC web page and clicking on the Family Ministry link. You can also check the Connect Point for occasional useful parenting support material.



## A Musical Note

*By: Carl Henry*

***“Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others.”***

-- The Apostle Paul, Philippians 2:4 [NIV]

In our society today, we're bombarded with advertisements that tempt us to satisfy our every desire. Even grocery stores are laid out to this end. Why is the milk in the back of the store? Because most everybody buys milk, and that way you'll walk by everything else. So we end up having our weaknesses and personal preferences reinforced and encouraged every day. We are taught to have a consumer mentality -- to take our business elsewhere if we don't get what we want. But the Apostle Paul reminds Christians that it's not all about us. When it comes to others, we are to consider them even more important than ourselves and think of their interests also. What does that have to do with music and worship? We live today in the most diverse society our county has ever seen in its history. That includes a very wide variety of personal musical preferences. To be true to the Apostle Paul's admonition to consider the interests of others, South Louisville tries to offer a variety of worship music that includes both contemporary and traditional.

That means that we each probably won't hear our favorite music all the time. It all comes down to how we each answer Paul's statement -- are we willing to sacrifice our own personal preferences sometimes in order to consider the interests of others?

## Our Next 24 Hours of Prayer

### October 17 & 18

During our last prayer vigil we had over 75 people spend one hour each praying during the 24 hour timespan. This Day of Prayer is scheduled to immediately precede South Louisville Christian Church's celebration of 112 years of ministry. The sign-up sheet can be found on the CONNECT table in the church Worship Center. If you have ever done this before, then you know what a blessing it is for you personally and for SLCC. However, if you have not participated, please consider it this time. You are given a guide to help you formulate your prayers and it will be the shortest hour you have ever spent! SLCC needs your prayers.

## Thankfulness

*By: Pastor Theodore Dues*

In the Apostle Paul's letter to the Colossian Church, he writes this one, seemingly simple command – **Colossians 3:15** – “**Be thankful.**” Now, it's important to understand that the people Paul writes this to were living in very humble circumstances. Many of them were living in poverty – many were slaves – most were being persecuted for their faith. Their lot in life was not very pleasant by the world's standards. They had very few privileges and they carried very many burdens. And yet, when you read through this letter, you never hear Paul expressing any pity for them. Instead, Paul just encourages them. Specifically, he encourages them to be thankful people.

And Paul never instructed anyone to do what he himself was not already doing. Paul was always practicing thankfulness in his own life. Paul had a very thankful heart no matter the circumstances he was facing. He sang songs of praise and thankfulness even as he sat in a Philippian jail. Paul was beaten and shipwrecked and imprisoned – he was often cold and hungry and lonely and exhausted – he was mocked – he was rejected – and through it all, he somehow remained thankful. So when Paul encourages the Colossian Christians to be thankful – we can be sure that he had a long history of practicing what he preached.

I don't think it would be a stretch to say that thankfulness is one of the most important Christian duties. It would also not be a stretch to say that thankfulness is harder and rarer than we think. Jesus once healed 10 lepers. He healed them all and He healed them equally. Yet of the 10, only one came back and offered his thanks to Jesus. Only one showed himself to be a grateful person. Now I have no doubt that each one of those 10 had thought that it would be heaven to be healed. They had pictured it – prayed for it – dreamed of it. It's what they wanted more than anything else. Then they got what they wanted – and it was in getting what they wanted that their true hearts were revealed.

I'm just guessing here – but I would be willing to be that there has been a time in your life when you really wanted something – pictured it – prayed for it – dreamed of it. And you probably imagined how grateful you would be if you only got it. Then you did get it. Only instead of being grateful – you decided that you had earned it – or you deserved it. It's one thing to want something – it's something else to get what you want. And it is in the getting that our hearts get exposed.

And that is why God appeals to us over and over in His Word to be thankful people. I would suggest that the degree of your daily thankfulness reveals a great deal about your understanding of God. The greater your vision of God – the greater your thankfulness. If you believe that whatever happens to you happens by chance – than you have little reason to be thankful – because you have no one to be thankful to. But if you believe that whatever happens to you happens by the providence of God – then you have every reason to be thankful – because you have someone to be thankful to. The gift of thankfulness is one of the secrets of true happiness in this life. It is not the happy people who are thankful – it is the thankful people who are happy. Conversely, unthankful people are never happy people. Unthankful people are dissatisfied and discontent and they always want more – and when they get it, it's never enough. But when you embrace thankfulness as way of life – when you embrace thankfulness for the simplest mercies you receive every single day – when you are thankful for the morning sun on your face – thankful for whatever food you have to eat today – thankful that there is someone in this world who thinks of you and loves you – thankful for your church – thankful for your job – thankful that you have the sight and the senses to read these words – when you are that kind of thankful – you have discovered one of the great gifts of true Christianity.

Thank you for being part of South Louisville Christian Church. And God's very best to you today,  
*Pastor Theo*

## Facilities Quarterly Update

*By: Rick Brumleve*

Following is an update from the Facilities Management Team (formerly Trustee's). These projects are listed by priority, have been approved by leadership, and are scheduled for completion by early Fall 2014.

1. Sanctuary Compressor Upgrade – remove and replace unit #3. This brings our HVAC system up to 100% capacity from 75%.
2. Elevator Upgrade – Removal of the old style door relays and install new state-of-the-art door relays.
3. Paved Parking Lot Upgrades – reseal and restripe the Main and Kenton Street lots.

Other projects loom on the horizon and will be addressed as funding permits.

If you have any questions or concerns, please speak with any member of the team – Doug Taylor, Ray Horn, Rob Kallam, Pat Stone, or Rick Brumleve.