

# The South Louisville Christian Church

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

**E-NEWSLETTER**

## Greetings from the Building and Grounds Committee

**By: Rick Brumleve**

As we close out 2014 and approach 2015, we'd like to share all that God blessed and was accomplished here at SLCC this year.

Projects -

- Repainting baptistery walls
- Painting visual on baptistery back wall
- Repainting of basement hallway
- Repainting of Kenton Street lobby
- Scripture appliqués on basement hallway walls
- Establishment of the Coffee Connect area
- Electrical upgrades and island cabinet in Coffee Connect area
- Addition of bistro tables in hallway and Coffee Connect area
- Replaced damaged wiring in disconnect box on Sanctuary unit #2
- Replacing sanctuary unit #4 compressor
- Replaced fan motor on gym AC unit #2

- Repair of various toilets
- Replaced toilet in basement women's bathroom
- Replaced toilet in handicap accessible/unisex bathroom
- Replacement of kitchen stove

In 2015 projects include -

- Repair and reseal the exterior brick on the sanctuary
- Repair the wall plaster in the sanctuary foyer
- Replace the second floor classroom windows on the mezzanine level in the gym
- Replace the double-doors in the gym
- Repair/replace the windows in the chapel and second floor rooms
- Landscaping enhancements
- Flooring enhancements

As you can see the work on God's house is constant and rewarding. If you are interested in serving, please see one of the B&G committee members.

We will be having several days of service in 2015, so watch your bulletin for dates and times. God's blessings upon you and your family today and throughout 2015!

## This Fall's Events

- Dec. 6 – Women's Christmas Tea
- Dec. 7 – Annual Congregational Meeting
- Dec. 13, 27; Jan. 10, 24; Feb. 14, 28 – Food Distribution
- Dec. 19, Jan. 30, Feb. 27 – Craft Night, 6:00 pm
- Dec. 24, 6:00 pm – Candlelight Communion Christmas Eve Service
- Dec. 31 – No dinner or Bible Study

### Food Pantry Needs:

Bar Soap  
Pancake Mix

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

**South Louisville Christian Church**  
**3845 Southern Pkwy.**

**P.O. Box 14154**

**Louisville, KY 40214**

[www.southlouisvillechristianchurch.com](http://www.southlouisvillechristianchurch.com)

## Six Years and Counting

*By: Pastor Theodore Dues*

This month, November, 2014, I celebrated my six-year anniversary as the Sr. Minister of South Louisville Christian Church. I have served as your Pastor for six years. Six years.

The reason I had to write those words more than once is because I have a hard time getting my mind around them. Six years? Where did the time go? I feel like I have maybe been here six months, but not six years!

There is a very good reason the time has gone by so quickly: It's because these have been the best six years of my life. My soul has never been as satisfied as it has been here. My relationships have never been better than they are here. My sense of purpose has never been so strong as it is here. My confidence in God is greater than ever before. The love I have for all of you just keeps getting deeper. The joy I still feel in coming to the church every day, sitting in my office, studying the Scriptures and preparing my lessons and sermons – that joy has never diminished. The peace I feel sitting in the sanctuary still overwhelms me. And the honor I feel in being chosen by God to be your Pastor still humbles me. These have been the best six years of my life.

When I look back across those years, I marvel at all of the wonderful progress we have made as a church. We have grown in so many ways – numerically, physically, and spiritually. We have found exciting ways to reach out to our neighbors and minister to them. We have ordained new Elders, new Deacons and even a new pastor. We have hired new staff. We have made a lot of improvements to the building. We have broadcasted our sermons on the radio. We have grown in a lot of ways. But I can't help thinking that we are just getting started. I can't help thinking that the last six years are just the beginning of something that is bigger than we can really imagine right now. I can look back at the progress we have made, and it would be very easy to be satisfied with that – but I am going to keep looking forward and keep trusting that God hasn't even begun to show us all the magnificent things He is just waiting to do here.

If it's alright with you, I plan on sticking around for another six years. And if God's will

allows, I plan on sticking around for much longer than that. There is no other place I would rather be.

There are no other people I would rather be on this journey with than you guys. As we continue to grow, and as God continues to do His amazing work here – I want to enjoy those things with you. I want to sit at this same desk six years from now and write another article about things that have happened here that I can only dream of now. I want you to dream with me. I want you to dream with God. And dream big! Dream of a brand new church building on this property. Dream of hundreds, maybe thousands more people that call this church "home." Dream of us planting new churches around the city, around the state, around the country, around the world. Dream of us sending out groups of missionaries every year to the darkest places on the planet. Dream of us raising up our youth in Christ – sending them to Bible College – and having them fill the pulpits of other Christian Churches. Dream with me. Dream with God. And dream big.

Six years ago I could never have dreamed of writing the words I am writing now. I am learning not to limit my dreams. I am a beloved child of God – and I am following God's plan for my life – and there is nothing I can dream of that is too big for God.

Thank you for the best six years of my life!  
God's very best to you,  
Pastor Theo



*Merry Christmas and Happy New  
Year from  
Your Church Staff*

## Greetings from the Family Ministry

**By: Ron Matthews**

Merry Christmas! Oh wait a minute, I jumped the gun, but the season has come early. This winter should be a very white winter. This means that as a family you will have lots of time to share with each other. The first part of this article will be 15 great ideas you can do as a family during the cold winter days: 1. Enjoy a cup of cocoa and watch the snow fall as a family and share your thoughts. 2. Go out and build a snow man as a family. 3. Head to a hill and sled as a family. 4. Teach your children how to make a family recipe. 5. Make cookies together as a family, sugar cookies with cookie cutters. 6. Read a book as a family before bed times. 7. Play some board games, go fish or other fun games. 8. Play videos games as a family. 9. Work on Christmas Cards as a family. 10. Work on a family photo album together. 11. Put puzzles together as a family. 12. Put up a makeshift tent in a room and pretend they are on a camp out for the day. 13. Go out and make snow angels as a family then go in and drink cocoa. 14. Have a slumber party and watch movies. 15. The best one yet, read the Bible as a family.

2015 has some new promising ideas and adventures coming up in the Family/ Youth Ministry. We have summer camps, and if you are interested, here is the schedule that we are sponsoring this year.

Elementary – June 7- 11<sup>th</sup> is Melissa Cook's All Elementary – I had the pleasure of working with her last year and really feel this year will be a camp to remember. You won't want to miss out.

Junior and Senior High will be going at the same time this year at the camp -- June 11<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup>. The two grades will be divided at camp and will be coached by two different deans. This will help us as Youth Coaches to be there at the camp if there is a need from one of our campers. I love the idea -- great planning, White Mills!

We are excited to announce that this year we have two youth retreats happening that will encourage spiritual growth. The first one is "Believe" for Junior High and it takes place right here in Louisville.

The second is "Move" and it is for some dedicated Senior High youth who will need adult sponsorship -- watch the newsletter for dates and times to be a part of this ministry opportunity. I guarantee that this ministry will bring you and the youth you sponsor closer as the Family of God.

We also will be hosting VBS again and adding more Family Activities, so watch the bulletins.



## Christmas Carols

**By: Carl Henry**

The very first occurrence of hymns related to Christmas date to the 4th century in Rome. They were a response by the church to Arianism, a heresy that taught that Christ was not eternal but was created and therefore not an equal part of God. In the 9th and 10th centuries, something similar called Christmas Sequences began to appear in northern Europe. In the 12th century in Paris, the monk Adam of St. Victor began setting them to music based on popular music of the day. This was the beginning of what was more like what we know as a carol today. In the 13th century, St. Francis of Assisi was a strong influence on developing Christmas songs in France, Germany, and Italy. In 1426 John Awdlay, an English chaplain, wrote the first Christmas carols in English. At first these were used during community celebrations and were not used in the church until later. When Martin Luther began the Reformation in 1517 with The Ninety-Five Theses, protesting non-Scriptural practices of the Roman Church, carols grew even more in popularity through the newly forming Protestant churches. By the mid-18th century, "O Come All Ye Faithful" appeared in its current form. During the 1800's, many of the carols we consider traditional today appeared in a work called Christmas Carols Ancient and Modern (1833) by William Sandys-- "God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen", "The First Noel", "I Saw Three Ships" and "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing." Later in the 1800's, Isaac Watts wrote "Joy to the World", and Charles Wesley wrote a song that developed into the carol "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing." And perhaps the most famous modern carol of all, "Silent Night," was written by Joseph Mohr in Austria in 1816. On Christmas Eve 1818 Mohr asked Franz Gruber to set it to music, and it was used in church for the first time. It first appeared in English in 1871 in a Methodist hymnal.

*Adapted from "Christmas carol," Wikipedia*