



Carolina Wesleyan

WINTER 2009

Bojangles' Church



Who knew you could build a bridge with barbecued chicken?

way about BoJangle's, but they do not feel that way about the church.

The good news, they want to. The bad news, we do not give them enough reasons to.

The 17- to 22-year-old crowd has been leaving church for a good while, a couple of generations, in fact. But they always came back – many of them, anyway. They dropped out when they went to college, and then they came back when they got married or when they started having children.

They're not coming back anymore. And it's not for the reasons you might suspect – 'they don't like the music', or 'they don't like the style of worship', or 'they don't like going to church with their parents.' Those are not the reasons they give.

The sad reason is: they cannot tell any meaningful difference in their lives whether they go to church or not. It is not perceived to be 'essential' for them. They don't gotta, wanna, needa have it.

Anyone who has ever had a Cajun chicken biscuit with a BoJangle's sweet tea understands the concept of 'essential.' *Gotta, wanna, needa, getta, havea BoJangle's*, as they say. Well, according to Thom Rainer and his son, Sam, 17- to 22-year-olds may feel that

Dr. David Spittal, president of Southern Wesleyan University, said it this way: 'The Wesleyan Church has done a marvelous job of building two spans of a three-span bridge.' The two spans he is talking about are children's ministry and youth ministry. 'However, we have failed to build that third span and our young adults are driving off the end of the bridge and disappearing.'

The question for us is, what are we doing about it?

Thomasville Mt. Zion instituted a worship service targeting the young adult population of their congregation and their community. The 'Connection Service' features young adult styled music led by a



Worship at Mt. Zion's Connection Service

praise band made up of young adults. Dress is casual. From a small but energetic group, the service has grown to an average of around 170. Of course, more than young adults attend, but it is the young adult population of the church that drives the service. One of the side benefits of what has happened has been the development of new leaders who have stepped into opportunities that did not exist before.



Asheboro Foster Street has found several ways to engage their young adult population. There is a weekly Bible study group that meets for fellowship and discussion, but they take their energy outside the walls. The young adults of the church are the main

North Carolina East District of The Wesleyan Church
Home District of Lucks Beans (great with barbecued chicken!)

volunteers that carry out the mission of **The Bridge Project** on the east side of Asheboro. They are also the main workers in the youth ministry.

Reidsville Covington has established a new Sunday school class for their young adults. It is called 'Transitions'. Along with their weekly time of inspiration, they have a once-a-month time of fellowship. They are heavily involved in the church's monthly food distribution. They provided 140 food boxes and piles of wrapped presents to over 300 people this Christmas, leading the way in adopting 128 needy families during the holidays.

Salisbury Trinity is launching 'Worship Loud' in January on Sunday evenings in



Reidsville Covington young adults help distribute food to over 100 families in Rockingham County each month



Daniel E. LeRoy is District Superintendent and Editor of the *Carolina Wesleyan*

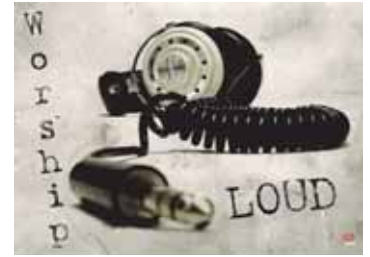


Ernest G. Mullins is Assistant District Superintendent, Director of Evangelism and Church Growth, and Chairman of the District Board of Ministerial Development



Darrell W. Scruggs is District Office Administrator, and Publisher of the *Carolina Wesleyan*

their brand new student ministries building. It is designed to build community among those 18 and older in the area, as well as reach students from local colleges – Catawba, Pfeiffer, UNC-Charlotte. They currently minister to a local retirement home, leading Sunday worship there once a month (not too loud, though). They also sponsor several young children through World Hope.



Church planting, by its very nature, is usually carried on by young adults. Young adults are the main constituents of our new **Greensboro Vintage** church. Several Southern Wesleyan University alumni have relocated to the Greensboro area to be part of the core leadership team.



Justin the hot chocolate man

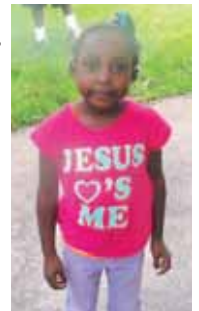
Young adults from upstate New York and from Illinois relocated to Wilmington to be part of the core leadership team of the **Crosswinds Church** in the Leland area.

And young adults are signing on to be the ground-level core group of the **City on a Hill Project** in Chapel Hill.

Our Hispanic church plants are likewise led and peopled by young adults. The

Jamestown Poder y Salvacion church that was birthed by **High Point First**, and the **Greensboro Centro de Fe** church that is an outreach mission of **Greensboro Christ** are both run by and filled with young Hispanic adults.

Engaging and empowering these young adults is 'essential' to passing the faith and the church along to the next generation. We just *gotta, wanna, needa, getta, havea* plan and a heart to do it.



Yes, he does Tanasia, and we're going to be there to prove it to you

A WORD FROM PASTOR DAN

Young adults can reach young adults, if we will let them. We need to quit trying to make them act like us. We need to empower them and encourage them and turn them loose.

Do you remember Saul's armor? Cast it aside. Turn David loose with his five stones and sling. Let him run to the battle in the power of the Lord!

Jesus was serious when he asked, 'When the Son of Man returns, will he find faith?' We had all better get serious about the answer.



New Chapel at Southern Wesleyan University

Southern Wesleyan University dedicated its Newton Hobson Chapel and Fine Arts Center October 23.

NC East Board of Trustees members present for the dedication were Pastor Keith Carroll, Pastor Ron Hamilton, Joe Stallings and District Superintendent Dan LeRoy.

The new \$5.6 million, 47,000-square-foot facility has a seating capacity of 1,200, including a spacious balcony and stage. It is also the new home for the university’s Fine Arts and Spiritual Life departments. The building opened in August, and hosts cultural events and campus chapel services.

‘All we had was a dream, no money and a brick,’ said President David Spittal. ‘Now 147,153 bricks later, ponder anew what the Almighty can do when he works through men and women like you. We appreciate all those who gave financially and sacrificially to this project.’

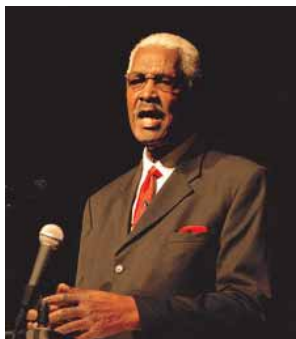
The facility is named for Faith Newton Hobson, who attended the institution as a young woman and went on to become a beloved educator and close friend to the university.

Classrooms and offices for the Spiritual Life department are housed in the portion of the building named Fralin Hall in honor of J.D. Fralin who chaired the building steering committee.

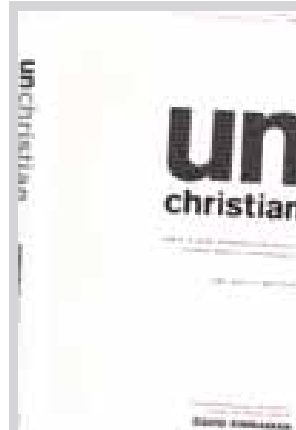
Also recognized were Thomas and Joanne Phillippe for their instrumental role in completing the new facility. The Fine Arts area bears the name Phillippe Hall.

Philip Fritts, Student Government Association president and member of the NC East District, expressed appreciation on behalf of the SWU student body for this wonderful new addition to their student life experience.

Dr. Julius Scipio, local pastor and community leader, gave the dedication address.



Dr. Julius Scipio



GROWING PASTORS ADVANCED LEADERSHIP TRAINING

Pastor Curtis Mulder will be the featured seminar leader at the upcoming ‘Growing Pastors’ event.

He will share how the book, ‘unChristian’ brought conviction and change to his life, and got him outside the four walls of his church and into the lost world around him.

Down East event

Monday, January 26, 3:00 pm,
Rose Hill Bethel Wesleyan Church

Piedmont event

Tuesday, January 27, 10:00 am,
Asheboro First Wesleyan Church



Our New Location in Leland

Pastor Chris Vernon and the core group of the Crosswinds church plant have secured this commercial space for their worship and training facility in the growing Wilmington suburb of Leland. It looks like we will be the first church in this new, rapidly expanding area.

Please pray for Pastor Chris, his family, and the new church’s core leadership team as they prepare for a March 29 launch. You can communicate with them at (910) 465-6524 or cvernon@crosswindslive.com.

LOCAL CHURCH NEWS



Durham New Hope

Work is progressing rapidly on the new home for **newhope**. March 8 is the projected date for dedication of the new facility on Old Fayetteville Road, less than a mile south of the Streets of South Pointe regional mall.

Pictured at left is the cross raising service that took place in November.

Pastor Benji Kelley and the **newhope** church family were able to gather at the new site on Christmas Eve for celebrating Christmas time, viewing the live nativity scene and sharing communion. They were invited to go inside and write scripture verses on the bare concrete floors as an act of worship and statement of faith. Over 1000 people attended the service, including families who walked across the street from the adjacent neighborhoods to make their first contact with the church family.



Durham New Hope Christmas Eve Communion Service

Gibsonville Brown

New members received on Sunday, September 28, were Becky and Butch Meris, Karen Wyndham, Laurie Way, Brian and Jennifer Cooke, Bonnie Griffin, Hannah Black, and Karen and Kevin Knight. Larry Pope is senior pastor.



Greensboro Christ

On Sunday, October 12, Quincy and Valerie Newman (son & mother), Caleb Renshaw and Megan Phillips were baptized. Jonathan Lewis is senior pastor.

Snow Camp Bethlehem

November 23 was a real Thanksgiving Celebration with baptism, church membership day



and a celebration of the Lord's Supper in morning worship. Jack and Vickie Cheek were baptized and became covenant members and Joshua Glasco became a covenant member. Sunday evening the church hosted a Community Thanksgiving service with other local churches participating. The church was packed with over 100 in attendance. Roger Coburn is pastor.

Goldsboro

AWANA has come to Goldsboro. They have started with the T&T (Truth and Training/ 3rd thru 5th grade) class and will expand to a sec-



ond age group, the Sparks (kindergarten thru 2nd grades) as they build the staff team. Goldsboro Wesleyan is posted on the official AWANA website, so community parents will see the church listed when they enter the local zip code. Al Thompson is pastor. Javier Martin-Vinas is the director.



Asheboro Foster Street

The Bridge Project sponsored a joint worship service on Sunday afternoon, January 4, at Foster Street with the Greater St. Johns Missionary Baptist Church, an African-American congregation from the East Side. The Foster Street Praise Band led worship and the St. Johns Gospel Choir ministered in music. The sermon was preached by Pastor Joseph Kearns, of the St. Johns church. Over 180 people filled the sanctuary. Charles Moses is senior pastor. Josh LeRoy is the Bridge Project leader.



Asheboro First

Will Crews, a fourth-grader at Tabernacle Elementary School in Asheboro, chose to write a Veterans Day biography about his great uncle, Ronald G. Trogdon, who was killed at the age of 20, and was the first soldier from Randolph County to be killed in action in Vietnam. The Pilot Club asked Will to read his essay at the Veterans Day Program. Will and his sister Sarah along with their parents Scott and Karen Crews attend Asheboro First. Mark Beane is pastor.



High Point First

The Golden Tones, a senior adult choir led by volunteer director Rachelle Denny, presented the musical drama 'Christmas Dream' to the High Point First Wesleyan senior adult Christmas gathering. Eighty guests enjoyed the meal and program. Rick Kavanaugh is senior pastor, and Roland Cavanaugh is senior adult pastor.



Tabor City Old Zion

Veterans were recognized and a new 30-foot flagpole was dedicated on Sunday, November 9. An American flag that had flown over the U.S. Capitol was presented to the church in commemoration of Old Zion's 100th anniversary. Veterans from the church conducted the flag raising ceremony and members of the Cub Scouts



and Boy Scouts placed a wreath in memory and in honor of our Veterans. Later that day, the church had a float in the annual Veterans Day Parade in nearby Nakina. Billy Roy is the pastor.

Gold Hill

On Dec. 11, the church gave 'Christmas' to 127 children from the community who needed assistance. Sunday School classes and other members worked all year collecting, wrapping and sorting all the presents. Church members, led by Janice Evans,



along with the Morgan Elementary School guidance counselor, handed out gifts to the families. It wasn't just stockings but huge bags of gifts. Also the ladies of the church collected clothing to give away to those who might need it and provided refreshments for the families as well. The gifts were received with tears of joy, thanks and hugs. Harold Bumby is senior pastor.



New Flagpoles for Camp

A new flag and flag pole was given to the camp by Woodmen of the World. Wesleyan Men dug the footing, poured the concrete and installed the pole.

A dedication was held on 9/11. At the same time across the US, over 200 flags were dedicated that had been given to other nonprofit organizations by the Woodmen. Veterans Donny Lassiter and Milton King were given the honor of lowering the flag to half mast that day.

Ed Winslow provided the money for a second pole from which to fly the Christian flag, in memory of the

Pastor and Mrs. Carey Bulla. The Thomasville Mt. Zion children's ministry has given the money for a third pole for the NC state flag.

CONGRATULATIONS!

Pastor James and Charlotte Hulett celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on July 19. They have served



Wesleyan churches in Kentucky, Eastern Ohio and North Carolina East districts.

NC EAST GLOBAL PARTNERS

— Pastor Jonathan Lewis

Peru Partnership



Cusco children in worship

Pastor Jose De Ita shared some of the good things that God is doing through the ministry in Cusco, Peru. On Sunday, December 14 they baptized 14 new Christians! God is enabling them to reach out to a number of the

local groups of young people who normally hang around in the streets outside of the church location.

He has expressed his appreciation for us providing funds for him, his wife and a leader in their church to go to a leadership conference sponsored by the National Wesleyan Church of Peru.

Thanks to all who have given sacrificially to support this ongoing project. We continue to build a strong partnership and friendship with the Peruvian people. Please remember that this is a partnership that involves the entire District, so if you are looking for a place to make a contribution, financially or personally, that will quickly result in changed lives, this is a good place.

World Hope

Tom and Mary Louise Stancell, lay members of Burlington First, serve as Hope for Children Ambassadors through World Hope International. Recently Mary Louise made a trip to Zambia, Africa. She writes, 'I am again reminded that although these



Mary Louise Stancell

gentle spirited people are out of our sight, they are not without the need of our help. Child sponsorship will provide you with an international friendship and opens up your world, while changing the world of the child you sponsor. I have seen the progress, growth, and development of the children my husband and I sponsor. Child sponsorship yields a high return on your investment. You will empower a young life and allow that young person to realize the fulfillment of their dream of an education.' You can go to

www.worldhope.org or hfc@worldhope.net for more information.

The Stancells are available to speak to your group.

Kernersville Antigua Trip

Kernersville Wesleyan Church sent a group to Antigua November 1-8. The group helped with giving worship facilities new paint and ministered to children. Pastor Don Martin led the trip.



February

Heart of Ministries Offering month

Southern Area Ministers Conference	9-11
Nominating Committee Meeting	17
Victory Mountain Camp Board Meeting, 7pm	19
Ash Wednesday	25
Children's Ministries Worker's Get-Together, 10:30am, Asheboro Rushwood Park	28

March

Wesleyan Women World Day of Prayer	7
Camp Meeting Board Meeting	10
Growing Pastors Advanced Leadership Training Down East Area	16
Growing Pastors Advanced Leadership Training Piedmont Area	17
Wesleyan Women Coastal Retreat	27-29
Last Sunday for Pastoral voting	29

April

DBMD Ordination interviews	2
Easter Sunday	12
Legacy Luncheon, 12 noon, Kernersville	16
E&CG Board Retreat	24-25
District Golf Tournament	27

Revivals and Special Meetings

Goldsboro	Revival, January 21-25, Phil Bence
Thomasville Mt. Zion	Missions Conference, February 7-8, H.C. Wilson
Hillsborough	Revival, March 1-4, Kenny Greenway
Archdale	Revival, March 29-April 1, Kenny Greenway
Troy	Revival, March 29-April 1, Dan LeRoy
Troy Callicutt	Revival, April 5-8, Ron Hamilton

WELCOME LITTLE ONE!

Pastor Brent and Julie Tysinger announce the birth of their second son, Liam Patrick Tysinger. He was born on October 4, weighing 7 and a half pounds, 21 and a half inches long. Liam is pictured with older brother, Aiden. The Tysingers pastor the Mt. Pleasant Community Church in Hillsville.



North Carolina East District of The Wesleyan Church

NUMBERS THAT COUNT

December 2008

CHURCH:	Assessment			Nov./Dec.	Pastor
	Due to Date	Paid to Date	Amount Behind		
Albemarle	9485.00	8130.00	1355.00	104	Doug Beadle
Archdale	5125.00	5124.00	1.00	48	Alvin Wooters
Archdale Real Life (D)	.00	.00	.00	NR	Brad Pharr
Asheboro Browers	4723.00	3987.00	736.00	91	Ed Lindsey
Asheboro Central (D)	27.00	48.00	.00	28	Larry Johnson
Asheboro Crestview	4808.00	4809.00	.00	64	David Rollins
Asheboro First	6564.00	4690.00	1874.00	68	Mark Beane
Asheboro Foster St. (D)	9149.00	7419.00	1730.00	355	Charles Moses
Asheboro High Pine	8524.00	8526.00	.00	130	Wyatt Hoogkamp
Asheboro N. Grove	12873.00	11985.00	888.00	105	Doug Dennis
Asheboro Rushwood Pk.	24297.00	14522.00	9775.00	168	Ron Hamilton
Asheboro Sawyersville	9902.00	9905.00	.00	139	Darrell Rabon
Burlington First	6399.00	4582.00	1817.00	55	Stephen Saunders
Chapel Hill City On A Hill (D)	.00	2530.00	.00	—	Matt LeRoy
Denton	16789.00	1700.00	15089.00	270	Charlie Collins
Denton Hoovers Grove	3047.00	3045.00	2.00	45	George Sheppard
Durham A Place of Hope(D)	.00	.00	.00	NR	Fred Young
Durham newhope	17,065.00	14628.00	2437.00	809	Benji Kelley
Eden Dan River	10093.00	9126.00	967.00	153	Tim Butcher
Eden de la Trinidad (D)	238.00	238.00	.00	61	Leoncio Rios
Eden First	5997.00	5999.00	.00	68	Lewis Brandon
Eden Merriman Street	3081.00	3088.00	.00	NR	Don Ledbetter
Eden Trinity	17,204.00	2356.00	14848.00	227	Wayne Johnson
Fayetteville Faith	5810.00	729.00	5081.00	64	Wayne Chandler
Franklinville	1764.00	1695.00	69.00	22	Al Newcomb
Garner New Life	12433.00	12432.00	1.00	NR	Gary Tesh
Gibsonville Brown	15379.00	12358.00	3021.00	208	Larry Pope
Gold Hill	10496.00	10903.53	.00	159	Harold Bumbo
Gold Hill St. Paul	1416.00	1418.04	.00	21	Roland Smith
Goldsboro	7633.00	7693.00	.00	89	Al Thompson
Graham First	3041.00	3038.00	3.00	22	Wayne Howard
Greensboro Christ	17847.00	17600.00	287.00	118	Jonathan Lewis
Greensboro de los Valles (D)	.00	.00	.00	97	Cristobal Vasquez
Greenville First (D)	2324.00	996.00	1328.00	34	Randy Lewis
Harkers Island	7224.00	6192.00	1032.00	91	Clinton Nelson
Hertford Bagley Swamp	10865.00	10864.00	1.00	140	James Spough
High Falls	1711.00	732.00	979.00	38	Roger Riffe
High Point First	80203.00	80206.00	.00	863	Rick Kavanaugh
High Point Lao (M)	.00	.00	.00		Inthava Inthisane
Hillsborough	7384.00	12667.00	.00	71	Odell Link
Jamestown PoderYSalvacion (D)	.00	.00	.00	65	Maikal Hoyos
Kernersville	26929.00	26929.00	.00	350	Phil Hulén
Kernersville Cristiana	1976.00	2000.00	.00	75	Fermin Bocanegra
Liberty Friendly	1573.00	1575.00	.00	32	Danny Thomas
Liberty Mt. Olivet	2290.00	1686.00	604.00	NR	Nathan Smith
Liberty Pleasant Union	1927.00	1925.00	2.00	19	Wayne Byrd
Mebane (D)	945.00	.00	945.00	NR	Rodney Purcell
Oak Ridge Cross Gate	2909.00	2912.00	.00	20	Kelly Goudy
Ramseur	13746.00	11784.00	1962.00	211	Kevin Stumbo
Ramseur Kildee	2558.00	1825.00	733.00	38	Blair Lyseski
Randleman First	12119.00	11743.00	376.00	114	Don Hurlburt
Reidsville Cov. Mem.	36795.00	36792.00	3.00	470	Ralph Clayton
Robbins First	5866.00	5028.00	838.00	77	Wilson Harris
Rose Hill Bethel	8871.00	7845.00	1026.00	NR	
Salisbury Trinity	26616.00	26614.00	2.00	246	Randy Addison
Sanford First	5956.00	6700.00	.00	52	Larry Moore
Seagrove Mt. Zion	1708.00	100.00	1608.00	NR	Andrew Hurlburt
Seagrove Trinity	3194.00	2736.00	458.00	NR	George Simmons
Seagrove Whynot	3009.00	2100.00	909.00	NR	Ron Terry
Siler City First	5254.00	5256.00	.00	NR	Eddie McClure
Siler City Pleasant Grove (A)	.00	.00	.00	NR	Noah Albarez
Snow Camp Bethlehem	1290.00	1113.00	177.00	27	Roger Coburn
Snow Camp Victory Ch.	1364.00	1300.00	364.00	NR	Raeford Brim
Sophia Mt. Olive	5006.00	2450.00	2556.00	66	Garland McDowell
Staley	1612.00	1395.00	217.00	NR	Alvin Brooks
Tabor City Old Zion	8181.00	8183.00	.00	103	Billy Roy
Thomasville Holly Hill	9318.00	9984.00	.00	122	Mark Mullins
Thomasville Mt. Zion	63580.00	63581.00	.00	780	Keith Carroll
Thomasville New Hope (D)	968.00	766.00	202.00	34	Eddie Hawkina
Troy	5962.00	5964.00	.00	83	James Brewer
Troy Callicutt Mission	3588.00	3576.00	12.00	61	Bob Freeman
Troy First	19136.00	19138.00	.00	170	Jeff Ray
Wilmington First	3575.00	3577.00	.00	25	David Lord
Wilmington North Pointe	8586.00	8589.00	.00	120	Jeff Loman
WinstonSalem El Aposento (D)	2020.00	1810.00	210.00	120	Tomas Manchego

TOTALS 659347.00 593569.07 65777.93

(D) Developing; (A) Affiliate; (M) Mission (NR) No Report

—Bill Reeves, Treasurer

THE BACK PAGE

Top 10 Ways to Tell If You Belong to a Church or a Club*

I was in a club when I was in the third grade. We played WAR a lot. There was an abandoned house directly behind where we lived and it was the battlefield. The Nazis didn't have a chance.

In fact, we were so legendary in our military conquests, they just made a movie about us. Tom Cruise plays me.

I can't even remember any official club meetings, but I do remember we had a clubhouse (my friend's garage) and we had a sign: 'NO GRILS ALLOWED'. I don't think any ever showed up.

How about you? Have you ever belonged to a club? Maybe you belong to one now, but don't recognize it. These are the top ten ways to tell.

10. Assigned seats

You know you are in a club if, after three visits, you can pretty well predict where everyone will be sitting on your fourth visit. Pillows and blankets left from week to week are a dead giveaway.

9. Organ recitals

You know you are in a club if there is a public 'prayer request time' and it usually consists of a recitation of ailing human organs and appendages, or other concerns given with as much graphic detail as embarrassingly possible. If it feels more like an anatomy class than a church, it's a club.

I will never forget hearing the pastor of our family's home church back in Kentucky say, 'Dan, just once I would love to hear someone request prayer for the lost in Russell.'

I will also never forget hearing, during 'Concerns of the Congregation', one, that there was no toilet paper in Peru, and two, that a black person actually

Carolina Wesleyan

A publication of the North Carolina East District of The Wesleyan Church
Home district of Lake Mattamuskeet, 18 miles long, 6 miles wide and 2 feet deep

*did something nice for a white person in a check-out line one day. 'Concerns of the Congregation' was discontinued.**

8. Official club song book

You know you are in a club if there is a hymnal that predates *Sing to the Lord* or *The Celebration Hymnal*. Do not try to remove those song books or sing songs not in them. It is against club rules. (see Rule 2). I know a club that still uses the Pilgrim Holiness book of antiquity, *Spiritual Life Hymnal*, published in 1948. People!

7. Official club version handbook

You know you are in a club if there is only one recognized version of the club handbook allowed. It is usually known as *The Authorized Version*. I quit asking. I just go on and use the version I am most comfortable with and is easier to understand, because the mission is communication not preservation or passing inspection.

6. Members only

You know you are in a club if there is a prevailing 'this is for us' attitude. You can tell it when you walk in the building. They will tell you that they are very friendly, and they are – with each other. But the nature of a club is to be exclusive, and they are – until they can determine whether you are safe or not. You want to look for the place that says, 'It is not about us. It is about him and them. It is not even for us. It is by us, for him and for them.' Join that one.

5. Dues

You know you are in a club if they talk a

lot about money – other people's money. Especially yours. And they need you to give your money, but they really don't need you to give your opinion about what they should do with it. That's probably a club.

4. Club house

You know you are in a club if the most time, energy and money is spent by the club members keeping their clubhouse looking good.

3. First thing cut

You know you are in a club if the first thing cut from the budget when things get tight is the 'Outreach' line. But they will be able to buy those nice, lightweight round tables for the Clubhouse fellowship hall.

2. Official club rulebook

You know you are in a club if they have an official club rule book that is often referred to but seldom seen. In fact, the best clubs have rulebooks that are not in print but are in every club member's memory. Those are the best kind. If you are a club member.

1. What members and leaders allow to offend

You know you are in a bad club if the restrooms are offensive. Or the carpet is dirty, or the yard is shabby, or the furniture is uncared for. But you can also be in a bad club and not know it, if everything is sharp and looks like a picture. Heaven have mercy on you if your child messes something up (see Rules 4 and 2). You know you have moved out of 'club' status and up to 'church' status when the only thing you allow to offend is the gospel.

— Pastor Dan

**We were back to worship in that church some years later and the current pastor had reinstated 'Concerns of the Congregation'. That morning we heard from a rather unstable member of the congregation that he was thankful he got an ax for Christmas.*



My church is very Christlike — the same yesterday, today and forever