



A Letter From Jim

McEachern Memorial United Methodist Church • 4075 Macland Road • Powder Springs, GA 30127 • (770) 943-3008

April 9, 2008

Dear McEachern Members and Friends,

Grace and peace to you in the name of our Father God and of His Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ.

I have several things that I want you to be aware of coming up in the next month or so:

- McEachern Memorial United Methodist Church will host its first-ever 5K and 1-mile Walk/Run at 8 a.m. on Saturday, May 3. Proceeds will benefit the church's international mission trips to Venezuela, Puerto Rico, Kenya, and the Czech Republic. You can pick up a race application in various locations on the church campus, or you can request one from runformissions@bellsouth.net. The entry fee is \$20 per event, and entries must be received by April 26. The late entry and day-of-race entry fee is \$25.
- In the next several weeks we will start to see tax rebates hitting our bank accounts. The finance committee is encouraging our members to "Tithe the Tax". Why not consider giving at least ten percent of your tax rebate to help offset our deficit?
- Consecration Sunday is May 4th at all worship services. What is Consecration Sunday? It is the Sunday where we will dedicate our intended giving to God for the next year (July 2008 – June 2009). Over the next several Sundays you will hear testimonies from various lay members of our congregation. You will also be given the opportunity to make your reservation for our Celebration Luncheon. Several mailings in the coming weeks will detail the program more specifically. I hope you will be present each week and come on May 4th ready to hear our Guest Speaker, Rev. Mike Selleck.
- I have a book that I would like to recommend to you: Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations is written by United Methodist Bishop Robert Schnase. Bishop Schnase names Radical Hospitality, Passionate Worship, Intentional Faith Development, Risk-Taking Mission and Service and Extravagant Generosity as hallmarks of effective congregations. Our staff will be reading this book, and I will be preaching a sermon series about these five practices next fall.
- Several of you have been asking about the status of our Vision Forum. We have formed the Steering Committee and ordered the material they will use. The Steering Committee will soon be meeting to plan their work and form the Task Force. We have the names of all who have indicated a desire to participate, and will be praying for God's direction as we fully form the group. Please continue to pray for the Steering Committee and the Task Force. Especially pray that we may faithfully discern God's direction for McEachern.

Almighty God, we thank you for this fruitful congregation. We humbly ask that you would continue to bless us, so that we might be a blessing to others. Gives us eyes to see the ministry to which you call us, and the courage to carry it out. All this we ask in the name of Christ, for the sake of His kingdom. Amen.

God Bless,