

# *Family Focus*

## **SHEPHERD'S CORNER**

### **Visioning Messages Are You Hungry?**

Food is necessary for our physical body. A balanced, healthy, varied diet sustains us and aids natural growth. Without food and water, we die. This is so important that much of our daily lives is connected to supplying them. In fact, no one thinks that eating or drinking only once, twice, or even several times a week, would get us by. Yet even the perfect dietary plan cannot prevent death.

Our physical life is so short compared to eternity. We rightly put great effort into maintaining it, but that is actually short term thinking. How sad it is that we fail to look forward and put that kind of importance and effort into our spiritual lives that will be forever. Our spiritual self also needs nourishment to grow, mature, and be sustained. We need spiritual food, not occasionally, but daily.

Literal and figurative food and water are mentioned often in the Bible, starting in the Garden of Eden in Genesis; on the wilderness journey to the land of 'milk and honey'; in the upper room with Jesus and the disciples; New Testament Christians feed on the 'milk and meat' of the Word; and ending in Revelation 22 at the river of the water of life and the tree of life with its fruit. But what is spiritual food, and where is it found? It is found in the study of the Word, but that is only one place. The Elders have a vision of spiritual growth for the members of this church family, and the whole body. Partaking of spiritual food and drink is the way to accomplish this growth. Four areas of focus to find nourishment are:

1. The Worship assembly – Prayer, praise, singing, communion, and the Word.
2. Bible study – Learning and applying the living Word in our lives.
3. Small Groups – Fellowship with the saints, giving and receiving in love.
4. Ministries – Serving others as Jesus did and growing ourselves in the process.

We believe that at Fairview Road the tables are set full of life giving, everlasting spiritual food and drink for anyone and everyone to dine, be nourished, and filled daily. The question is ---- Are You Hungry?

In His Service,  
Britt Newby for the Elders

### **Shepherds' Vision Goals**

#### **Overall Goal:**

To grow spiritually and numerically as "a family growing people to the glory of God".

#### **Goals for the next 12 months:**

1. Increase participation by at least 10% in these areas: Sunday Worship, Bible School, Ministry Works, and Small Groups.
2. Make a list of 5 folks to pray for & invite to Small Group or Worship.
3. Add 20 new teachers.
4. Total Congregational giving challenge - increase giving by 28%.

Note: The elders will evaluate the giving trends between now and May 1:

13% increase – Will fully fund existing ministries.

28% increase – Will fund an additional minister and more ministries, which is what the elders would like to do.

*Want to learn more about specific plans to reach these goals? Ask an elder or minister or go to our website: [www.fairviewroad.org](http://www.fairviewroad.org).*

**Shepherds** (\*denotes quarterly chairman):  
Glen Godsey, Charles Martin, Britt Newby,  
Don Osburn, James Treece, \*Dee Vanderburg