



# **The Camden Companion**

**December 31, 2006**

*"Come let us reason together says the Lord" (Isaiah 1:18)*

## **HAPPY NEW YEAR**

As we get set to welcome the new year:

*"The Lord bless you and keep you:  
The Lord make His face to shine upon  
you and be gracious unto you:  
The Lord lift up His countenance upon  
you and give you peace."*

Numbers 6: 24-26

May each and every one look for, identify, and enjoy the blessings of the Lord throughout the new year. As a popular song says

***"God is so good - - He's so good to me."***

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## THE YEAR THAT WAS - 2006

The turning of the calendar usually causes us to look forward with anticipation to a new year with all its promise, hopes and dreams. But it is also a time to stop and look back at what we did in the year past. We usually discover that there were many problems dealt with but also many joys. It truly can be "bittersweet."

Personally, the year could best be described as a year of change. I saw a daughter get married and a son graduate high school. Old traditions at our house were vastly different this year and it is sometimes hard to deal with changes that leave us feeling older and tired. But reality is what it is and we get over it and move on.

Our congregation has lived through many challenges and changes this year as well. Many members have dealt with serious illnesses either themselves or in their families. This past year saw a decline in our overall attendance as some folks moved away or to other congregations. But we continued on anyway.

We have had four people come forward asking for God's help this year and also had one baptism. Many members pitched in and helped work on our building make over. We worked hard on our singing and it improved as the year went on. Some of the men even preached their first sermon this past year. Since October, we have had at least one get-together at someone's house. That needs to continue.

2007 can also be a year of change for our group as we begin to focus on ways to bring folks to the Lord. May He bless us in this regard as we grow "in spirit AND IN NUMBER."