

# News From The Pews

News of the First Presbyterian Church

December 2009/January 2010

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## UPCOMING WORSHIP/EVENTS

### DECEMBER

#### **December 6, 2009 – Christmas Musical**

Worship Theme: "Christmas Around the World"

#### **December 9, 2009**

6:00 p.m. Advent Program

#### **December 13, 2009 – Communion Sunday**

Worship Theme: "Finding Peace in Changing Times"

Scriptures: Zephaniah 3: 14-20; Philippians 4: 4-7;  
Luke 3: 7-18

Rev. Bob Garrard

#### **December 20, 2009**

Worship Theme: "Singing Mary's Song"

Scriptures: Micah 5: 2-5; Hebrews 10: 5-10; Luke 1:  
46-55

Rev. Roger Rapp

*Hosting CIHN Dec. 20 - Dec. 27*

**4:00 pm – CANTATA (Sanctuary)**

#### **December 24, 2009 – Christmas Eve**

12:00 Noon Church Closes

7:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m. Worship Services

Worship Theme: "Why Was Christ Born?"

Scriptures: Isaiah 52: 7-10; Titus 3: 4-7; Luke 2: 1-20

#### **December 25, 2009 – Christmas Day**

*Church Closed*

#### **December 27, 2009**

**– 10:30 a.m. Worship Service Only**

Worship Theme: "How Shall We Respond to  
Christmas?"

Scriptures: Colossians 3: 12-17; Luke 2: 41-52

Rev. Bob Garrard

#### **December 31, 2009**

12:00 Noon Church Closes

### JANUARY

#### **January 1, 2010 – Church Closed**

#### **January 3, 2010 – Communion Sunday**

Worship Theme: "New Year's Proclamation"

Scriptures: Ephesians 1: 3-14; John 1: 1-18

Rev. Bob Garrard

#### **January 10, 2010 – Ordination / Installation Sunday**

Worship Theme: "God's Call and Protection"

Scriptures: Isaiah 43: 1-7; Luke 3: 15-22;

Acts 8: 14-17

Rev. Bob Garrard

#### **January 17, 2010**

Worship Theme: "Water into Wine"

Scriptures: Isaiah 62: 1-5; 1 Corinthians 12: 1-11;

John 2: 1-11

Rev. Bob Garrard

#### **January 18, 2010 – Church Closed**

Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday

#### **January 24, 2010**

Rev. Roger Rapp

#### **January 31, 2010**

Worship Theme: "Called to Love"

Scriptures: Jeremiah 1: 4-10; 1 Corinthians 12: 31 –  
13:13; Luke 4: 21-30

Rev. Bob Garrard

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Tis the season when gifts of all types are emphasized in the secular world and the church. Over all, this is good news. However, an often understated and overlooked part of the good news of gift giving is that it goes on every day, all year long, just like the gift of God's grace in Jesus Christ does. I am grateful beyond human express for this saving grace and how it redeems me on a daily basis. I am also thankful for your daily gifts given in response to what God in Jesus Christ has done for you, because you have done so much for me!

Your gifts of prayers, love, time, talents, money and friendship given so generously and sacrificially for this gathering of Christians so that we can reach out and bring people together in Christ's love are an amazing grace to this community and the world. May God grant some quiet time in these hurried days to reflect on how you have shared his grace. May he guide you as you consider how you may just as generously pour it out in 2010.

**Our Associate Pastor Nominating Committee** has been given the green light to post our Church Information Form on line with the General Assembly. Once it is online, pastors who are seeking positions can read all about us and contact the committee. Our APNC can then read about pastors who are on the search. From this, conversations and further exchange of information can take place. All the contacts are confidential, so all the APNC can tell us is that the search is ongoing. When will we find the right person, only God knows and it will be in his time. Please pray for the committee.

**The need for a full-time associate is great in our church!!** We need a full-time associate pastor to help us reach out to the college students and young adults in our congregation and community. Some of our young adults are attending small groups in other churches because we do not offer them. We want our young adults to continue to be a part of this congregation. We want to further nurture them in the Christian faith and guide them to become leaders of this church. Your prayers and financial support will be vital to the future of this ministry!

Thank you to Barb Lutz for her calligraphy in the Bible given to Javen Westby upon his confirmation. Thank you to: Jeanne Bellamy, Donna Goss, Theresa Hopper, Peggy Hutchings, Barb Lutz, Gary Moore and Brenda Wilson for their service as elder over the past three years. Thank you to: Jory and Jennifer Kaufman, Calvin and Laurell Fogg, Eva Jeanne Holmes, Roberta Trimble and Joe Dougherty for their service over three years as deacons. These leaders have given immeasurable energy, intelligence, imagination and love to the Lord and us.

New Elders for 2010: Laurie Box—Personnel, Jean Marie Seitz—New Life, Linda McGuire—Missions, Marilyn Ham—Personnel, Ken Sherman—Finance, Kathy Lake—CE, Nick Hartsook—Building and Grounds. **To be elected at the February 14 annual congregational meeting for Worship and Music—Walt George.**

New Deacons for 2010: Linda Woodard, Laura Westby, Deborah Child, Drew Dilly, Dallas Lain, Jade Lain, Mary Bausserman. **To be elected at the February 14 annual congregational meeting, Donna Goss and Joe Dougherty.**

May God bless you with a joy filled Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Bob Garrard

***December 27<sup>th</sup>: There is only one worship service at 10:30 a.m.  
No Sunday School or Youth activities.***



Just a note to thank those who participated in the recently concluded study on the popular book "The Shack". We averaged 14 participants over 11 weeks. It was interesting to note the varied responses to the theological themes presented in the book.

I also enjoyed getting to know some of the members and friends of First Presbyterian through this study.

Roger Rapp, Interim Associate Pastor

### What's Happening NOW in Adult Sunday School?



#### ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS – "CHRISTIAN ART"

The Christian Education Ministry is offering a special Sunday School class for adults during Advent. Titled "Christian Art," it will feature the following topics:

- Nov. 29 - Bible Stories in Art
- Dec. 6 - Signs and Symbols in Christian Art
- Dec. 13 - The Gothic Cathedral ("The Bible in Stone and Glass")
- Dec. 20 - The Art of Michelangelo

The class will meet in the chapel during the regular 9:15 a.m. Sunday School hour. Teacher is Maïda Wedell, who taught art history at LCCC for 29 years. Please call her at 635-1983 if you have any questions. Everyone is welcome!

*The Ascension, folio 13v, Rabbula Gospels, 586.*



### Adult Sunday School Study Coming January 10, 2010. . .

Starting January 10th, a special Kerygma Study in the Book of Psalms will be available for Adults during the Sunday School hour. This will be a seven week look deep into Psalms led by the Rev. Curt Barnett. A sign up sheet is available in the Parlor. We want to order the study books soon so you can have your copy available before the first session! Maybe you have thought of the Psalms as comfort in times of need--Have you really studied the Psalms for your personal Christian growth? We will come together to see what the Psalms have to say to us individually and corporately. Plan now to join this exciting study! Have questions? Call Curt Barnett at 635.5671.

**From your Finance Ministry: Thank you for the ESTIMATED PLEDGE OF GIVING letters you have returned. We will soon be tabulating your gifts for 2010. If you have not yet returned your letter, please do so as soon as you are able. We are most grateful for your support to our ministry in the name of Jesus Christ.**

# Women of First Presbyterian Church

Submitted by Kay Barnes

## Christmas Brunch

All women in the congregation are invited to a Christmas Brunch to be held in the Parlor on Saturday, December 12<sup>th</sup>, at 10:00 a.m. We will have Christmas music provided by individuals from our congregation, sing some of our favorite carols, and enjoy delicious food and fellowship. Our table decorations will be ornaments from around the world. If you have some from other countries you would like to share, please bring them along. A babysitter will be provided. Come and join us for a festive morning!

## Warmth Tree

Presbyterian Women will again have a tree in the Parlor during December where you may place items to keep people warm—scarves, hats and caps, mittens and gloves, heavy socks, sweaters, and vests. These items will be donated to those in need in our community. Items for any age will be appreciated.

Thank you for your support!



## CHRISTMAS CANTATA

COME CELEBRATE THE SEASON IN SONG! THE CHANCEL CHOIR WILL PRESENT THE CHRISTMAS CANTATA, "SING GLORIA" ON SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20 AT 4:00 PM. A FREE-WILL OFFERING WILL BE COLLECTED WITH PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT THE YOUTH AS THEY PREPARE FOR THEIR MISSION TRIP. PLEASE JOIN US FOR THIS FESTIVE MUSICAL AFTERNOON.

## Financial Update

Dear Fellow Members and Friends of First Presbyterian Church,

Your Finance Ministry is keeping you up to date on the financial condition of the church. This is our report as of October 31, 2009.

- |  |                       |
|--|-----------------------|
| • This is the money we anticipated coming into the church to date: | \$ 447,142.80         |
| • This is the amount of money we received:                         | \$ <u>403,852.67</u>  |
| • <b>This is the resulting income deficit:</b>                     | <b>(\$ 43,290.13)</b> |

We thank you for the generous support you have given so far. As you can see, we need even more of your financial help to sustain our ministry of "Bringing People Together in Christ's Love."

Sincerely in Christ, Your Finance Ministry  
 Brenda Wilson, Chair  
 Deb Sanchez  
 Clint Jessen



## **PEACEMAKING: WE HELPED MANY WHO ARE STRUGGLING!**

-Mission Ministry

On behalf of all the people we were able to help with this year's Peacemaking Offering and coat drive, the Mission Ministry of Session and the Local Missions Committee of the Board of Deacons thanks the congregation for all the generous donations!

Here's an impressive statistic: Together we donated \$1,537.02 for the Peacemaking Offering. That's almost \$400 more than we received last year! During these tough economic times, we reached out to help those who are struggling. A fourth of this money will stay at our church to help individuals or families with utility costs; the rest will go to Presbytery to help with the projects like those you heard about during Minute for Mission time in October.

The coat drive, coordinated by both deacons and elders, is another success story. Members donated a total of 78 coats, including several brand new ones, plus numerous shirts, sweaters, scarves, mittens, gloves, and boots which some people added for good measure! That number included 18 children's coats, 16 men's coats, and 44 women's coats. Half went to Needs and half went to a safe house center at Pine Ridge Indian Reservation. In another example of how we create "happy ripples," we know of another individual who is not a member of our church but heard about the coat drive, collected 50 children's coats on her own, and used her own money to ship them to Pine Ridge! What a great example of influencing others through our actions!

In reaching out to others, we do God's work, and when we work together, we model God's plan. Thank you for being a part of the plan!



**HYSTERICAL  
HISTORICAL  
ARCHIVES**

More information about John Calvin as the Reformed world celebrates the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his birth.

**DID YOU KNOW:** John Calvin was definitely not a slacker. While studying in Strasbourg before returning to Geneva, he delivered sermons up to four times a week and also taught a critical examination of Scriptures three times a week.

John Calvin's doctrine of vocation or calling offers a model of life that our culture desperately needs. He saw God as a loving and gracious Father, showering gifts upon his children. One of those gifts was an ordered community. Calvin saw that the various "callings" to which believers are called are divinely ordained.

Calvin saw that every legitimate work or profession was a calling of God. A farmer or a servant had every bit as good a chance of pleasing God in their work as a king or a judge. In the 16<sup>th</sup> century this was something truly new---an approach to the Christian life that saw value in all of the ways that people made their livelihoods and contributed to the community.

In Calvin's vision human work becomes infused with meaning—at workday's end we can bring our offering before a gracious God with glad hearts, confident in God's love and our growth in the way of Christ.

*This information was taken from November 2009 issue of Presbyterian Today.*

Don't forget to put your pennies in the Pennies for Stained Glass jar toward the rear of the sanctuary. We aren't able to empty the Penny Jar very often but when we do, we usually find \$100.00 or so. We need to continue saving our pennies as this fund goes toward any maintenance or cleaning needed on our beautiful windows. Try putting your age in pennies every year on your birthday.

If you are interested in serving on the Archives Committee or just helping with some of our projects, please contact any of the following members.

Paula Qualls	638-8805	Ralph DeWyke	632-8210
Mel Qualls	638-8805	Glen Oslund	638-8884
Frances Creech	638-3787	Peggy Williams	634-0147

**REMEMBER, IT IS IMPORTANT TO KNOW WHERE WE HAVE COME FROM AS WE  
JOURNEY FORWARD MAKING OUR OWN HISTORY.**

**Deacon's Beacons**

Submitted by Jane Nelson

God of the ages, we pray that you will make yourself known to us in powerful ways. Save us from all that threatens us in this season of hope. Amen. – Oswald Chambers

My Lord and my God, I have a thousand arguments against Healing Prayer. You are the one argument for it . . . You win. Help me to be a conduit through which your healing love can flow to others. For Jesus' sake, Amen. – Richard J. Foster

It is for us to make the effort. The result is in God's hands. – Mahandas K. Gandhi

LET US MAKE THAT EFFORT for:

Sharol Acheson	Glen Flyr	Margret Jones	Midge Reed
Stacy "Skoumal" Adams	Dennis Fogg	Roshni Joseph	Doris Rogers
Meryl Adams	Adam George	Jim Kleine	Patti Sandison
Lil Barbour	Rev. George	Mary Jane Larson	Nelson Santiago
Richard Beauchamp	Gay Grant	Ann Lembke	Celia Schadel
John Bishop	Joan Gray	Alice Mabie	Allan Schultz
Betty Brown	Dianne Grimm	Kevin McMIndes	Susan Sexton
Jay Brown	Marydee Hartsook	Carol Moench	Dorothy Wagner
R.J. Brown	Pam Haswell	Kari Pace-Murdoch	Pauline Ware
Bonnie Carley	Pat Hawk	Linda Norris	Bruce Whearty
Eric Case	David Hettler	Michael Osborn	Allen White
Scott Coulson	Marv Hoflund	Sherry Popham	Margy Will
Robert Drummond	Karen Hruby	J.O. Reed	B.J. Wise
Pat Fairbanks	Marcy Jacobsen		

~ *If anyone listed on the above list needs to be removed, please let the church office know.* ~

Let God have your life, He can do more with it than you can. – Dwight Lyman Moody

Today I will face my problems, unwrap them and seek to understand their component parts, spread them out before the Lord. Thank Him in advance for what He is going to do; follow orders, for what I am to do, then stand by to watch His miracles. – Lloyd John Ogilvey

It's no harder for God to answer the tough prayers than the easy ones. The problem is our limited thinking. With God nothing is impossible. – Nick Harrison

Be in prayer for:

- Pete Arnold – Loss of Sister
- Buck Holmes – Loss of Uncle
- Dave Moench – Loss of Father
- Janey Rhodes – Loss of Brother

♪♪ Notes & Church News ♪♪

**COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS**

First Presbyterian Church offers scholarships to high school seniors and college students who are members of the church. The two scholarships available are the General College Scholarship and the Keith Weigner Memorial Healthcare Scholarship. Persons interested in applying for either or both are invited to pick up application packets at the church office. ***The application deadline is March 15, 2010.*** (Christmas break would be a good time to get the application filled out and submitted!)

**CHEYENNE INTERFAITH HOSPITALITY NETWORK (CIHN) REPORT**

Again, we want to thank all of our volunteers who made the October rotation a success for our families. The meals were exceptional and we appreciate how friendly you all were to our guests. Our CIHN guests have challenges most of us can't even imagine yet they continue to forge ahead with hopes and dreams like the rest of us. We are fortunate to be able to assist them as they progress toward their goals.

Our next rotation will be Dec.20-27. Judy Phillips will be the coordinator in charge and we will all schedule through her. She will have the duty sheet out in early December and will be able to let everyone know what special plans we have for this wonderful time of year. As usual, in order to make the rotation a success, we all must remain flexible and on our toes as the needs of the families frequently change during the week they stay in our church. We look forward to another successful week and hope many of you will be able to volunteer. Thanks so much for all you do!

John and Judy Phillips, Greta Morrow and Sue Riske

**NOW IN OUR CHURCH LIBRARY**

During December we will have on display books about Christmas and other holidays. Enjoy! For January we will feature the following three books:

While Bringing Out the Best in People, by Alan Loy McGinnis, is all about teaching others to excel, it also helps us understand how to change our own habits and improve relationships with family and friends. McGinnis gives 12 rules for helping others succeed and includes such topics as motivation, managing failure, expectations, gaining cooperation, proper times to praise and reprimand and handling abrasive troublemakers. [153.8 McG]

In With Healing Wings Marsha Maurer has prayers for those suffering through many difficult situations and for those who are care givers for those who are hurting. She also includes prayers to cover various times for thanksgiving. [242.8Mau]

Norman Wright covers all facets of communication in [Energize Your Life Through Total Communication](#). He talks about the value of listening to and observing what others are saying, what you are saying to others with your own body language, how to communicate in difficult situations, how feelings affect communication, and how to allow God to take control of your thought life. [248.4 Wri]

### **News from Church Member, Lois Mosher**

Dear Members,

I am now living at St. Andrews Village in Aurora, CO. This place is very nice and close to my daughter, Janice's, home. I am still using my wheelchair but hope to soon be using my walker. I plan to make it to Cheyenne soon to visit. I miss my friends in Cheyenne so hope you are able to call or come visit. My new address is St. Andrew's Village, 2670 S. Abilene Street, Aurora, CO 80014. Directions: I-25 south to I-225 south to Iliff. Then go east on Blackhawk which becomes Abilene. My phone number is 307-638-8860. I hope you are all doing well. I miss going to church!

As ever, Lois Mosher



**THANK YOU!**  
THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!



Dear Church Family,

Hal and I would like to thank Rev. Garrard for his many hospital and home visits and also for bringing us communion. Also, thank you to Rev. Rapp for his hospital visit and calls. We appreciate your prayers for Hal and would like to especially thank the following for their calls, visits, cards, and "goodies" that they gave to Hal: Jeanne Bellamy, Ike and Kathryn Bowling, Nadine and Jim Amen, Sally Brourink, Mary Lou McMIndes, Liza Mackey, Fritz and Fran Friehauf, Bob and Linda McGuire, and Ellen and Joe Kub. Again, thank you all for your thoughtfulness - it is very much appreciated. We miss you all.

Love, Hal and Velma Miller

Congratulations  
on Your  
New Baby!



**Congratulations to Robert and  
Laura Van Alyne on the birth of  
their son, James Alexander Van Alyne.**

**James Alexander was born  
on October 23, 2009  
and weighed 5 lbs. 12 ozs.**

**Grandmother is Janette Van Alyne  
and great-grandparents are  
Bob and Dolfe Van Alyne.**