

Grace Notes

Community of Grace Presbyterian Church

January 2010

January Highlights

From the Pastor's Desk

[Top 10 Life-coaching Questions](#) Pastor Bill introduces a new sermon series that will begin in January.

January 10

[Baptism of the Lord](#) On January 10 those who would like to renew their baptismal vows will be invited to receive the sign of the cross in oil on their foreheads.

Our Church Community

[Session Notes](#). Here you will find the notes from the Session meeting of December 15.

[November Financial Update](#). This is our updated monthly financial picture provided by Treasurer Tim Fluetsch.

[Presbyterian Links](#). Here is a listing of helpful links for those who are interested in our denomination's work at the national level, including what Presbyterians believe.

[Church Officers](#). This is a listing of the current elders and deacons.

Presbyterian Women

[Prayer Partner Box](#) Please complete and deposit a form by January 31 to receive a PW "Prayer Partner" for 2010..

Martha Craft Circle

[BYOC—Bring Your Own Craft](#) The last Tuesday of the month has been set aside for crafts and fellowship.

**Thanks to XMISSION for providing our church
with free internet access and a website.**

January

From the Pastor's Desk

Top 10 Life-coaching Questions

by Bill McGuinness

Pastor

Sunday, January 10, begins a new sermon series looking at how scripture sheds light on these questions. We hope you can join us.

Top 10 Life-coaching Questions



- Q # 10: "How am I spending my time?"
- Q # 9: "What Would I Do If I Knew I Couldn't Fail?"
- Q # 8: "Who Am I Becoming?"
- Q # 7: "What Am I Tolerating?"
- Q # 6: "Where Do I Focus My Attention?"
- Q # 5: "How Am I Using My Talents?"
- Q # 4: "Who Do I spend My Time With?"
- Q # 3: "How Do I Honor My Core Values?"
- Q # 2: "What Do I Want?"
- Q # 1: "How Am I Committed?"

January 10: Baptism of the Lord

by Bill McGuinness

Pastor



In worship on January 10, all who would like to renew their Baptismal vows* will be invited to come forward and receive the sign of the cross in oil on their foreheads. Anointing with oil is the biblical symbol of God's power in and upon believers' lives.

**Do you turn yet again to Jesus Christ acknowledging your acceptance of Him as your Lord and Savior, trusting in his grace and love?*

Will you be Jesus' faithful disciple, obeying his word, living out His compassion and showing his love and justice?

Our Church Community

Session Notes (Meeting of December 15)


by Jane Cooper
Elder & Clerk of Session

1. Alpha Program: The adult Alpha classes continue to have good participation. Adults are invited to drop in to the Sunday morning class and take part in the videos and discussions even if they have missed some sessions.
2. Celebration of Baptisms: Five children were baptized on Sunday, December 6, 2009 at both the 8:30 and 11:00 a.m. services. Session approved the baptism of three more children on Sunday, December 27, 2009 at the 11:00 a.m. service. Most of the children's parents were part of the recent New Members' class.
3. Treasurer's Report & Budget Update: Treasurer Tim Fluetsch will put notices in the Sunday bulletin to remind members to help us close out our financial year successfully by paying the balance of their 2009 pledge by December 31. To date two thirds of our members have pledged and one third of them have increased their pledges. Tim feels that some families will still turn in pledges for 2010. Session has approved the 2010 budget, but it will be tight. Members of the congregation will again be asked to donate the amount of their Per Capita to help our church pay the mission obligation we have to the Presbyterian Church (USA). The Per Capita amount for each member in 2010 is \$36.00.
4. Local Mission Projects: On December 20th Tim is coordinating the "Be a Magi" tent during the Birthday Party for Jesus so adults can purchase "gifts for Jesus" to support specific local mission projects at Community of Grace. We will only be able to support local missions and mission trips with the funds we collect, so members are asked to prayerfully consider donating to some area of our local missions even if they were not able to participate on December 20th.
5. Youth Area Leader Position: Session has given approval for the Youth Search Team to recommend hiring a candidate for the Youth Area Leader position by January 15th. The Search Team has been asked to submit a report to Session summarizing their recruitment and interviewing process leading to the selection of a final candidate.

6. Sunday School/Session Partnership: Pastor Bill will meet with individual Elders to discuss ideas for forging a stronger, more proactive partnership between Session and the Sunday School classes to encourage and support the teaching teams and students.
7. Study Leave: Session approved Pastor Bill's Study Leave from February 15 – 25, 2010.
8. Session/Deacons Retreat: A joint retreat for Elders and Deacons is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, January 30, 2010 from 9:00 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. and will include lunch.
9. Congregational Meeting: The annual Congregational Meeting is going to be held on Sunday, January 31, 2010 at 12:15 p.m. immediately following the 11:00 a.m. worship service. The purpose of the meeting will be to hear the 2010 financial report from Session, to get a brief progress report from the Pastor Nominating Committee, and to nominate and elect new members to serve on the 2010 Church Nominating Committee which will begin work on nominating Elders and Deacons for the class of 2013.

November Financial Update

by Tim Fluetsch
Treasurer

2009 Income & Expenses	 Financial Update	<i>Current to 11-30-2009</i> Budget Year To Date
	Year To Date	Year To Date
<u>Income</u>		
Pledges	\$267,399	\$308,363
Other	\$33,159	\$44,100
Total Income	\$300,558	\$353,463
<u>Expenses</u>		
Personnel	\$177,075	\$173,598
Outreach & Mission	\$17,260	\$38,555
Operations	\$112,288	\$111,553

Children & Youth	\$5,177	\$8,113
Adult & Family	\$3,300	\$4,721
Worship	\$2,072	\$3,208
Total Expenses	\$317,173	\$339,748
Surplus (Deficit)	(\$16,615)	\$13,715

Presbyterian Links

Here are some helpful links for those who are interested in our denomination's work at the national level:

Home Page, PCUSA (www.pcusa.org)

Presbyterian 101 [Facts about Presbyterians] (www.pcusa.org/101)

Expressing Our Faith: National and International Service
(www.pcusa.org/navigation/mission.htm)

What Presbyterians Believe (www.pcusa.org/catech/studycat.htm)

Church Officers

Board of Deacons

Deacons Moderator: Lisa Wiscomb

Class of 2010

Debbie Bybee
Denise Harris
Brooke Holyoak
Tom Keene
Bonnie Sackett

Class of 2011

Kim Beaslin
Barb Gentry
Elaine Nordberg
Linda Page
Lisa Wiscomb

Class of 2012

Erica Adamson
Scott Adamson
Sherry Britt
Wes Starkenburg
Keith West

Session

Moderator: Rev. Bill McGuinness

Clerk: Jane Cooper

Treasurer: Tim Fluetsch

Class of 2010

Pat Holmes
Chuck Stolfa

Class of 2011

Kelly Harris
Debbie Colt

Class of 2012

Jane Cooper
Alwyn Vanderwalt

Presbyterian Women Prayer Partner Box

by Karen Durrant

COG Presbyterian Women

If you would like to have a prayer partner for 2010, please fill out the prayer form at the Welcome Center and put it in the prayer partner box. You will be assigned someone to pray for, and someone will receive your name to pray for. During the year, please let

your prayer partner know you are keeping them in your prayers with occasional cards or small mementos. Prayer partners are revealed at the 2010 Presbyterian Women Christmas Dinner. Your prayer partner name assignment will be put in your church box by Jan. 31.



Prayer Partner Box

PW's Martha Craft Circle

BYOC—Bring Your Own Craft!

by Carron Kopren
COG Presbyterian Women

Do you wish you had a night set aside each month to work on that special scrapbook or sweater? Would you like to learn to knit or crochet a prayer shawl and contribute to a very important ministry? Would you enjoy a night in fellowship with other women, encouraging one another? Now you can! Set aside an evening for yourself and come join us! Drinks provided.

Where: COG -- Sr. High Room

When: 7-9 pm

Dates: the last Tuesday of the month, January through May

- Jan. 26
- Feb. 23
- Mar. 30
- Apr. 27
- May 25



Questions: Call Carron Kopren
801-942-0967 carronk@comcast.net

Martha
CRAFT
Circle