



Presbyterian 'Connection'

December 2010 Volume 16 Issue 19

From the Pen of Reverend Terry

The first time I saw this sanctuary, the windows captured my attention. Instead of stained glass windows, we have clear. Instead of man-made scenes, we can look out at the beauty of nature surrounding us. From our seats, we can see the changing seasons and rhythms of creation at the same time we observe the changing seasons and rhythms of the Christian year.

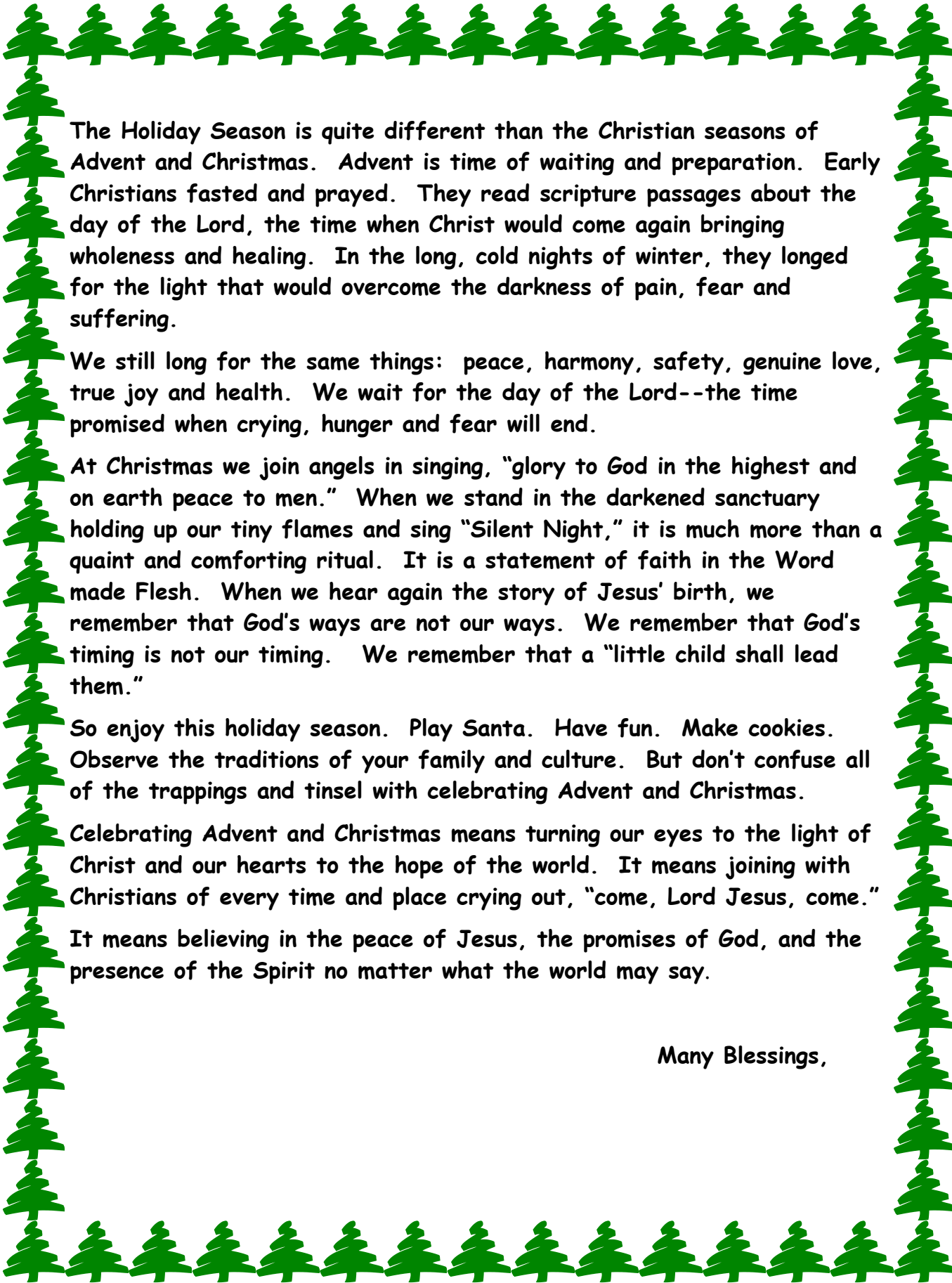
Most of the time things are in sync. But a couple of weeks ago, I looked up and was caught short. There in a neighbor's yard was Santa Claus. Inside the sanctuary we were celebrating Christ the King and Thanksgiving. Outside the Holiday Season had begun.

Now don't get me wrong, I'm a fan of the Claus. When I was younger I really appreciated being on the receiving end of his generosity. As I've grown older (and accumulated more stuff) I relish playing Santa by giving gifts.

Like many of you, I look forward every year to brightly lit houses, songs about reindeer, overeating and decorating trees. I've been known to look at my grandchildren and say, "You'll shoot your eye out." I've cried and laughed as Jimmy Stewart discovered that he truly lived "A Wonderful Life."

The holiday season, the way we celebrate it in America is neither good nor bad in itself. On the plus side, it can be a time to reconnect with innocence, to celebrate community, and to get in touch with our better natures. On the downside, it reminds us of what we don't have, causes undue stress, and encourages us to measure our worth by what we can buy or what we receive.

Con't..



The Holiday Season is quite different than the Christian seasons of Advent and Christmas. Advent is time of waiting and preparation. Early Christians fasted and prayed. They read scripture passages about the day of the Lord, the time when Christ would come again bringing wholeness and healing. In the long, cold nights of winter, they longed for the light that would overcome the darkness of pain, fear and suffering.

We still long for the same things: peace, harmony, safety, genuine love, true joy and health. We wait for the day of the Lord--the time promised when crying, hunger and fear will end.

At Christmas we join angels in singing, "glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to men." When we stand in the darkened sanctuary holding up our tiny flames and sing "Silent Night," it is much more than a quaint and comforting ritual. It is a statement of faith in the Word made Flesh. When we hear again the story of Jesus' birth, we remember that God's ways are not our ways. We remember that God's timing is not our timing. We remember that a "little child shall lead them."

So enjoy this holiday season. Play Santa. Have fun. Make cookies. Observe the traditions of your family and culture. But don't confuse all of the trappings and tinsel with celebrating Advent and Christmas.

Celebrating Advent and Christmas means turning our eyes to the light of Christ and our hearts to the hope of the world. It means joining with Christians of every time and place crying out, "come, Lord Jesus, come."

It means believing in the peace of Jesus, the promises of God, and the presence of the Spirit no matter what the world may say.

Many Blessings,

SUNDAYS IN DECEMBER



December 5

Second Sunday of Advent

The Candle of Hope

Communion

Installation of 2011 Deacons and Elders

Recognition of 2011 Presbyterian Women Officers

Isaiah 11:1-10; Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19; Romans 15:4-13; Matthew 3:1-12

“Are you ready?”

December 12

Third Sunday of Advent

The Candle of Joy

Christmas Play

Bethlehem High School Reunion

Christmas Potluck following Worship

Ham will be provided. Please bring a side dish or dessert.

December 19

Fourth Sunday of Advent

The Candle of Love - Christmas Joy Offering

Isaiah 7:10-16; Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19

Romans 1:1-7; Matthew 1:18-25

Choir Cantata

“Are you fearful?”

Christmas Eve

Carols, Communion, Candlelight

5:30 pm

Isaiah 9:2-7; Psalm 96; Titus 2:11-14

Luke 2:1-20

December 26

First Sunday of Christmas

Isaiah 63:7-9; Psalm 148; Hebrews 2:10-18; Matthew 2:13-23

“Refugees”





ALL SAINTS DAY

In Remembrance of Members & Friends

(11/1/2008 to 10/31/2010)

2009

February 25	William “Bill” Lyon in Mountain Home, Arkansas
March 19	Viola “Vi” Sass in Mountain Home, Arkansas
April 28	Charles “Chuck” Boehnlein in Tecumseh, Michigan
May 28	Josephine Shonkwiler in Zionsville, Indiana
June 8	Dorothy I. Williams in Prophetstown, Illinois
November 5	Doris “Dorie” Black in Auburn, Nebraska

2010

January 8	James “Jim” L. Kahm in Mountain Home, Arkansas
January 17	William “Bill” L. North in Mountain Home, Arkansas
May 4	Claude Shonkwiler in Indianapolis, Indiana
July 23	Eleanor “Ellie” Heydt in Mountain Home, Arkansas
July 31	Helen “Nanny” Nevitt in Flippin, Arkansas
September 23	Joseph “Joe” Burghard in Mountain Home, Arkansas

FRIENDS OF THE CHURCH

July 15, 2010	Julie Chorn in Bull Shoals, Arkansas
September 5, 2010	Henry “Hank” Vanderstek in Michigan



Thank you to everyone for celebrating my 60th Birthday with me. Thank you for all the cards--funny and sincere. Most of all, thank you for welcoming me!

-James Hart

Jim & I want to thank you for your prayers, cards and care during this difficult time. We thank you for the beautiful peace lily that was waiting for us when we returned from the Memorial service for our son.

-Sharon & Jim Arras

(A peace lily was given to them on behalf of the church)

Rev. Terry Hart-

Thank you so much for the sweet anniversary blessings! It was such a wonderful surprise that was so greatly appreciated! You all at the church mean so much to me and will always carry a special place in my heart wherever I am! 

I love and miss everyone dearly! Look forward to a visit home soon ;-)

God Bless!!!

Tiffany & Clint

From: www.pcusa.org/seminaries

Thank you for your investment and support! Thank you for your support in contributing to the Theological Education Fund in 2010 and 2011.

Signed by:

Dear Rev. Terry,

What a joy it was to be in your church! I loved every minute! Helping with the Potato Bash, staying with Esther Roberts, receiving all the precious had made caps, scarves, afghans and all the other needful things are/were just a testimony to the loving spirit of your congregation. 

I so enjoyed your message and the opportunity to share the miracles of Vera Lloyd. Thank you so much. You & your church are like home to me.

With much love,

Katy Bates-Henager

To the Congregation of the Bull Shoals Presbyterian Church, thank you for the card and prayers which helped in my recovery from surgery.

Gene Althof

CHURCH USHERS AND GREETERS

Greeters

December 5 - Faye Brackett & Irene Bere
December 12 - Pam & Ken Hobart
December 19 - Norman Hockley & Fred Taylor
December 26 - Betty Aaron & Norman Hockley

Ushers

December 5 - Paul & Mary Ann Smith
December 12 - Jean Hoefer & Warren Heydt
December 19 - Paul Graham & Betty Craig
December 26 - Bob & Gloria Wiles

PRAYER LIST FOR CONGREGATIONS, PRESBYTERY OF AR.-2010

December 5 Memorial Church, Atkins
December 12 Kirk of the Hills, Fairfield Bay
December 19 First, Clarksville
December 26 Mt. Vernon, Pea Ridge



First, Walnut Ridge
One-O-One Church, Gamaliel
Park Hill, North Little Rock
First, Huntsville

PLEASE NOTIFY IRENE BERE IF YOU KNOW OF ANYONE WHO SHOULD BE ON OUR PRAYER LIST.

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

December Birthdays

December 4 - Tiffani Colmenero
December 5 - Betty Hobbs
December 6 - Shirley Lowe
December 11 - Jewel Riley
December 15 - Susan Nixon
December 19 - Jean Hoefer



January Birthdays

January 2-Dot Pitts & Sandra Dockham
January 8 - Frank Docauer
January 9 - Mary Kerr
January 12 - Samantha Colmenero
January 17 - Alexis Haefer
January 19 - Bob Hobbs
January 26 - Eric Meyers
January 29 - Bill Jeffrey
January 31 - Bob James



ANNIVERSARIES

December 30 - Bob & Gloria Wiles
December 30 - Bob & JoAnn James
January 6 - James & Terry Hart
January 28 - Ray & Pat Erlewine



LIBRARY LINES FOR DECEMBER

Rev. Terry donated many wonderful non-fiction books. They are located on the library cart in the Children's Library. Take a look and check out some great informational and spiritual reading.

The Christmas Books and videos for the children and the adults are located in the Children's Library. The Adult Christmas books will be located on a separate library cart in the Children's Library.

The following is a list of the new fiction books:

THE INHERITANCE by Tamera Alexander, IN THE COMPANY OF OTHERS by Jan Karon, THE OAK LEAVES by Maureen Lang, VANISH by Tom Pawlik, and STEALING HOME by Allison Pittman.

The book of the month is IN THE COMPANY OF OTHERS.

Retired Episcopal priest Tim Kavanagh and his wife, Cynthia travel to Ireland the land of Father Tim's Irish ancestors.

"As three generations struggle to find deliverance from the crucifying power of secrets, Tim and Cynthia discover a journal written more than a century ago by a Philadelphia trained Irish physician. Who knew that faded ink could be the key to unlocking a crime and revealing the truth? *In the Company of Others* reminds us of our desperate need to be heard and the reconciliation that comes with confession."

Take time to enjoy the joyous holiday season with some good reading.

May you all have a blessed and joyous Christmas and New Year.



- Faye Brackett, Librarian



Presbyterian Women (PW)

Our last meeting in 2010 will be on Monday, Dec. 6th at 11:30 a.m. (breakfast or lunch) at the Village Wheel with Ada Jeffrey offering the Devotion. Business will be kept to a minimum, devoting our time to Christmas fellowship and fun with hostesses Joanne Kahm, Dot Pitts, Pam Hobart and Mary Kerr in charge. Do sign up on the Reservations sheet posted in the church office.

We had a tremendous response to our Baked Potato Bash. Jini Sass, chairperson, reported there were 23 of our church people involved in making the Bash an overwhelmingly successful and fun event. At the December meeting we will decide to which missions the \$900.00 profit will be allocated. Our thanks to Jini for her dedicated leadership and to everyone else who helped in any way. You came through as usual! To God be the glory for what was accomplished - the funds will help so many in need.

The Knifty Knitters last work session is on Thurs. Dec. 9th. This small group of women under the capable leadership of Bonnie Reeves and Esther Roberts have already knit about 300 caps for adults and children who are served by the Bull Shoals Food Pantry and will be given to them for Christmas. Our thanks to the Knifty Knitters for their loving efforts and to the local Methodist women, who donated 16 caps, left over from a fund raiser.

There are five children in the Christmas Flippin Head Start program who still do not have sponsors. Please check with Vicky Bair if you would like to be a sponsor. We are grateful to Vicky who has been chairing this program for several years.

At the Nov. meeting officers for 2011 were elected: Moderator, Irene Bere; Vice Moderator, Pam Hobart; Secretary, Jean Lyon; Treasurer, Mary Kerr. We welcome the opportunity to serve, and we eagerly look forward to what the Lord has in store for us this coming year!

Hope-Joy-Peace-May these gifts of the Christmas season be with you and your loved ones today and always!



Worship

As the month of October has come to an end, we can only look back to our wonderful “After Church Fellowship Pot Luck”. There were lots of wonderful dishes & good food, and was well attended.

Then there was an outside Church service for the Blessing of the Animals. Everyone of the animals were well behaved. For being good, they received a gift of 2-3 bones, all wrapped.

Communion was also served the first Sunday in October.

We are looking forward to a busy month in November with many activities, plus the last Sunday will be the first Sunday of Advent.

Thank you to all the Ushers & Greeters for their time given and our Choir for their every Sunday songs.

In God's Love

Irene Bere, Vivian Meyers & Mary Kerr

CONFESSION OF BELHAR

September 1986*

Part II

con't from last month's newsletter

11.1. We believe in the triune God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, who gathers, protects and cares for the church through Word and Spirit. This, God has done since the beginning of the world and will do to the end.

11.2. We believe in one holy, universal Christian church, the communion of saints called from the entire human family.

11.3. We believe

- that God has entrusted the church with the message of reconciliation in and through Jesus Christ; that the church is called to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world, that the church is called blessed because it is a peacemaker, that the church is witness both by word and by deed to the new heaven and the new earth in which righteousness dwells.
- that God's lifegiving Word and Spirit has conquered the powers of sin and death, and therefore also of irreconciliation and hatred, bitterness and enmity, that God's lifegiving Word and Spirit will enable the church to live in a new obedience which can open new possibilities of life for society and the world;
- that the credibility of this message is seriously affected and its beneficial work obstructed when it is proclaimed in a land which professes to be Christian, but in which the enforced separation of people on a racial basis promotes and perpetuates alienation, hatred and enmity;
- that any teaching which attempts to legitimate such forced separation by appeal to the gospel, and is not prepared to venture on the road of obedience and reconciliation, but rather, out of prejudice, fear, selfishness and unbelief, denies in advance the reconciling power of the gospel, must be considered ideology and false doctrine.

Therefore, we reject any doctrine

- which, in such a situation sanctions in the name of the gospel or of the will of God the forced separation of people on the grounds of race and color and thereby in advance obstructs and weakens the ministry and experience of reconciliation in Christ.

11.4. We believe

- that God has revealed himself as the one who wishes to bring about justice and true peace among people; and true peace among people;
- that God, in a world full of injustice and enmity, is in a special way the God of the destitute, the poor and the wronged
- that God calls the church to follow him in this; for God brings justice to the oppressed and gives bread to the hungry;
- that God frees the prisoner and restores sight to the blind;

con't

Con't from previous page.

- that God supports the downtrodden, protects the stranger, helps orphans and widows and blocks the path of the ungodly;
- that for God pure and undefiled religion is to visit the orphans and the widows in their suffering;
- that God wishes to teach the church to do what is good and to seek the right;
- that the church must therefore stand by people in any form of suffering and need, which implies, among other things, that the church must witness against and strive against any form of injustice, so that justice may roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream;
- that the church as the possession of God must stand where the Lord stands, namely against injustice and with the wronged; that in following Christ the church must witness against all the powerful and privileged who selfishly seek their own interests and thus control and harm others.

Therefore, we reject any ideology

- which would legitimate forms of injustice and any doctrine which is unwilling to resist such an ideology in the name of the gospel.

11.5. We believe that, in obedience to Jesus Christ, its only head, the church is called to confess and to do all these things, even though the authorities and human laws might forbid them and punishment and suffering be the consequence.

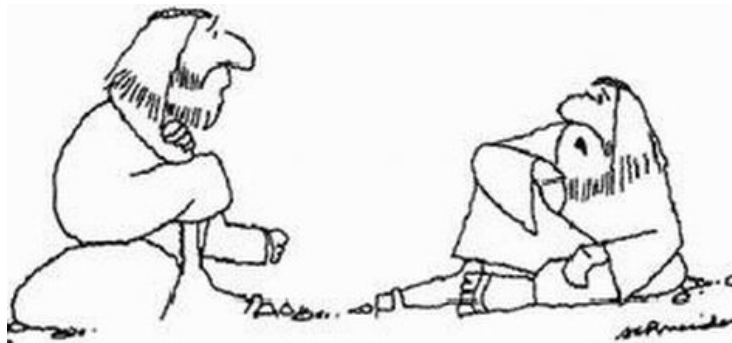
Jesus is Lord.

To the one and only God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be the honor and the glory for ever and ever.

Note

1. This is a translation of the original Afrikaans text of the confession as it was adopted by the synod of the Dutch Reformed Mission Church in South Africa in 1986. In 1994 the Dutch Reformed Mission Church and the Dutch Reformed Church in Africa united to form the [Uniting Reformed Church in Southern Africa](#) (URCSA). This inclusive language text was prepared by the Office of Theology and Worship, Presbyterian Church (USA).

Church Funnies....



"I don't know what to think—the weather bureau says snow, my big toe says partly cloudy, and the Lord says forty days of rain."

Let's Talk

Find the Presbyterians!

From the recent 'Dam Sighter' newsletter

The Bull Shoals Lakeview Rotary Foundation was incorporated in June 1993. The first donation was made in 1993. The first donations consisted of bequests from the Clarence Anderson and Khone estate and amounted to \$15,900. Our first scholarship for \$500 funded with the donation from the Anderson estate was to Eva Hurst in 1995. Our first Board of trustees consisted of Bob Hobbs (club president), Joe Gies Emmett Garner, Bob Reshan, Owen Kompelien, Robin Moffat and Jack Reeves. All great men with a passion to serve and give. By the end of 1997, there had been contributions totaling \$30,175. During those 4 years several of the club members contributed in several different ways, donating club winnings, and even had set up a \$10 a month plan. From 1998 thru 2009, individual donations totaled \$11,786.00. It was established in '97 that the foundation have a \$100,000 goal, which we have since attained. We now have 2 ongoing scholarships, in memory of Jack Rogers and Johnnie Wilson. The Foundation Board consists of the current club president, the immediate past president, the chairman of the scholarship comm., and at least 3 at large members. The current board is Jan Schmeski, Mark Dobbs, Randy Costa, Bill Self, Larry Strickert, Bob Hobbs & George Lewis. The foundation board has decided to increase our goal, and would like to see the principle of the foundation grow from \$100,000 to \$150,000.

Let go and let God

All my life I've been through a lot
Without questions being asked
Hating everybody around me
Because of the things that are based in my past
Not loving or caring for nobody
Was the way I felt inside
Hurting and downing myself, and kept falling
And didn't even think to rise
Reminiscing all the time
And eyes filled with tears
Isolating myself from others
Because of what happened in the past tense years
Worrying and stressing and
Feeling depressed about my family and all
Feel like needles penetrating though my chest
And there's nobody to call
Feeling alone and down
Like I'm being left out all the time
Running from my problems, creating misery
And solutions was hard to define
Until one day I got on my knees
And prayed, and asked God for help
Because I couldn't make it on my own
I just can't do it all by myself
So He told me not to worry about it
Everything's gone be okay
And he told me to just keep on praying
And prayin and just live each day by day
So I did what he told me to do
And everything came out smooth
Now I'm headed down a narrow path
And I'm sorta kina liking God's new groove
So as time passes me by
I'm looking even no longer odd
I learned to always keep the faith in the Lord
And if I fall short just
Let go and let God



Vera Lloyd, youth "Shaggy", age 16-written in 2010

RECIPES

Farmgirl Blueberry Muffins

By Christi Partee



~~~~~  
1 1/2 cups all purpose flour

3/4 cup white sugar

1/2 tsp salt

2 tsp baking powder

1/3 cup vegetable oil

1/3 cup milk

1 egg

1 tsp vanilla

1 cup blueberries (fresh or frozen)

2 tbsp sanding sugar

directions:

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1) preheat your oven to 400 degrees. line a large muffin tin with papers and set aside.

2) mix dry ingredients together in a bowl with a whisk

3) mix oil through vanilla together in another bowl with a whisk and add to the dry ingredients. the trick to muffins is DON'T over mix. gentle, strokes only!

4) add the blueberries and gently fold.

5) fill muffin cups to about 1/2 to 2/3 full and sprinkle with sanding sugar

6) bake for 20 to 25 minutes or until the centers are done.

7) cool, peel off paper, dive in!

If you have a recipe that you have tried before and believe others might enjoy it , please drop it off at the office to be included in the next month's newsletter.

THIS WE BELIEVE for DECEMBER

"For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor,
Mighty God, Everlasting Father, **Prince of Peace.**" Isaiah 9:6



~MISSION STATEMENT~

"We will be scripture-based to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ
and spiritually led to guide all people to be active doers of the Word"

Approved by Session on November 16, 2007

CHURCH STAFF

Interim Pastor: Rev. Terry Hart

Clerk of Session: Vicky Bair, Church Treasurer: Peni Lloyd

Financial Secretary: Dick Sass, Asst. Financial Secretary: Elaine Miller

DEACONS

Class of 2010

Betty Aaron
Jini Sass
Gloria Wiles

Class of 2011

Irene Bere
Sandy Erickson
Bill Kerr

Class of 2012

James Hart
Joanne Kahm
Pam Hobart

ELDERS

Class of 2010

Bob Wiles
Tywillah Schauer
Vicky Bair

Class of 2011

Peni Lloyd
Mary Kerr

Class of 2012

Norm Hockley
Ken Hobart

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