



Rev. Meta S. Cramer, Pastor

9:00 a.m. Sunday School
10:00 a.m. Coffee Hour (FH)
10:30 a.m. Worship

Volume LXXVI

November 30, 2009

No. 24

December 6 — The Second Sunday of Advent



Sermon: "Good News?"
Scripture: Malachi 3:1-4; Luke 1:68-79; Luke 3:1-18
Liturgist: John Stoffer



December 13 — The Third Sunday of Advent

Haviland Choir — *The Mystery and the Majesty*, a cantata by Joseph M. Martin

Scripture: Isaiah 9:6, 11:1-8, 35:1, 5-6, 10; Luke 1:26-33;
Luke 2:1-14; Matthew 2:1-6; John 1:1-5

Christmas Joy Offering

The Advent season has barely begun, yet at First Presbyterian Church of Salem we already have had several opportunities to share our blessings with others as Christmas approaches: Operation Christmas Child (through which we filled 50 shoeboxes for children around the world); Create-a-Smile for school-children of Salem; Angel Tags from the Salem Salvation Army on our Christmas tree in Fellowship Hall. All of these are wonderful causes that help children in need have a Merry Christmas.



The Christmas Joy Offering is an opportunity to give through the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), and it is also a chance to come to the aid of some slightly older people – some of whom are really and truly only a bit older than the children we help through the projects mentioned above. The Christmas Joy Offering looks to the future (as does the whole Advent season) by supporting racial ethnic schools and colleges related to the Church. Christmas Joy funds provide scholarships to deserving students as well as help with basic operating costs. Those schools include Barber-Scotia College in North Carolina, Cooke Native American Ministries in Arizona, Knoxville College in Tennessee, Stillman College in Alabama, Menaul School in New Mexico, and Presbyterian Pan American School in Texas. Through the Christmas Joy Offering, we assist these schools and their students in developing future leadership for both church and society.

The other half of the Christmas Joy Offering is used to support Financial Assistance Programs through the Church's Board of Pensions. The Shared Grant Program is open to all current and retired church workers. Many times, these grants meet needs resulting from additional medical or dental expenses not covered by insurance, or an unemployed spouse, or a flood or tornado, or a seriously ill child. Perhaps a retiree needs a little help paying for equipment or services not covered by traditional insurance. While Advent looks forward to the future, it also remembers the past. . . and assistance for those who have retired from church work on small pensions certainly honors the Lord we all serve.

All of the giving we do in this season is important – the gifts we give to our loved ones, the gifts we give to local children through Create-a-Smile or Angel Tags, the shoeboxes we fill for children far away. As you do your shopping, please don't forget the needs of college students and church workers. Giving to the Christmas Joy Offering doesn't provide the fun of buying gifts for children, but it does provide for tomorrow's *and* yesterday's leaders. Please give prayerfully and generously.

Prayer Concerns

Salem Hospital — Jean Pridon (157-2)

Others — Elvira Bass, Karen Bass (*Mary Frances Breit's sister, niece*), Ellen Becker (*family friends of Bob and Sue Merry*), Judi Bender, Warren and Barbara Bettis, Dick Bryan, Rosann Butler, Hayden Johnson, www.caringbridge.org/oh/hayden, Tink Layden, Joe Lippiatt (*Sue Sinclair's brother and Penny Lippiatt's nephew*), Bill McDevitt, Nancy Mickey (*Lori Mickey's mother in law*), Mary Jo Milheim, Rev. Tom Niccolls, Clarence Reed (*Sue Skiba's father*), Jeanne Smith Tom Smith, Aniya Woodruff (*great granddaughter of Richard and Eileen Shanker*)

Special Care Facilities

Blossom: Tony Dominic, 116 (*Stella Dominic's husband*), Evelyn Eichler, 112 (*Rich Eichler's mother*); Mary Jane Stamp (*Ruth Newman's mother*)

Briarwood: Norman Pim, 601 (3700 Englewood Dr., Stow OH 44224)

Convallarium at Indian Run — Lois Herron (*Bud Herron's mother*); 6430 Post Rd, Dublin OH 43016

Clare Bridge of Austintown — Bill Butler (*Pat Butler's husband*); 1420 S Canfield Niles Rd, Austintown OH 44515

Courtyard: Phyllis Lamb, 109, Betty Potter, 202 (*Helen Hayes' mother*)

Crandall: Betsy Johnson, 251 (*Tom Johnson's wife*); Virginia Stanley (*Judi Bender's mother*)

Essex I: Juanita Starbuck, 105 (*Ray Starbuck's wife*)

Essex III: Ibbey Dales, 211

Grace Woods Village: Jo Hawkins, 234

Pleasant View North: Virginia Limestahl, 17 (*Lu Ann Cole's mother*)

Armed Forces

† SGT Conrad, Emily — 1443A Circle Dr, Fort Campbell KY 42223 (*Gloria Shafer's cousin*)

† SGT Double C — 1st MAR DIV, 3rd Amphibious Assault BN, H & S CO, MCM PLT (*Barbara Double's grandson*)

† SGT Fennema, John T — fennma33@yahoo.com (*Paul and Barb Fennema's son*)

FINANCES

Envelope Income received November 1	\$ 3,728.00
Envelope Income received November 8	\$ 4,569.00
Envelope Income received November 15	\$ 5,823.00
Envelope Income received November 22	\$ 3,537.00
Envelope Income received November 29	\$ 3,335.00
General Fund Balance, October 31, 2009	(-\$3,455.83)
Loan to General Fund	-\$20,000.00
General Fund Balance, October 31, 2009	(-\$23,455.83)
<u>Per Capita (\$27 for 2009 / Goal: \$13,392.00)</u>	\$ 4,707.19
<u>2¢ for Hunger</u> (November)	\$ 35.00
Christmas Joy Offering	\$ 60.00

Armed Forces, continued...

† LCPL Gibbs, Jeremy B. — 5988 Tulagi Place, Tarawa Terrace NC 28543 (*Charles and Margaret Gibbs' grandson*)

† 2LT Halverstadt, Jon — 858 MCT / Joint Base Balad / APO AE 09391 / (*Dave and Becky Halverstadt's son*) jphalve@gmail.com

† PVT Hill, Zachary — D Company 2 -81 ARBN, 3rd Platoon Warlords, 3576 Wilson Rd, Fort Knox, KY 40121-5728; (*Gloria Shafer's son*) Zachary.J.Hill@us.army.mil

† CPL Lee, Stacy — CLB-5 HQ CO, UNIT 42230, FPO AP 96426-2230

† SGT Stith, Ryan — Kilo Company, MCT SOI, Camp Pendleton CA 92055 (*Harvey Mason's grandson*)

† † † †

The Sympathy and Surrounding Love of Our Congregation are extended to Howard and Kathy Loudon and the family on the death of Kathy's mother, Helen Oshaben.



Congratulations to Ben Karmazin and Angela Cavalier who were married on November 28.

Thank You

I have appreciated all the prayers and concerns from so many of you during my father's stem cell transplant. Things went better than expected, praise be to God.

Thank you
Debbie Blair

"Angel Tree"

for Salvation Army



We are very happy to announce that this year our congregation will be sponsoring 40 children for the Salvation Army's "Angel Tree." The Angel Tree is a program in which children's genders, ages, needs and Christmas wish lists are hung from tags on a local tree and members of the community can choose a child in need of some Christmas joy. We invite you to take one or several tags from the tree in Fellowship Hall. Please buy one outfit and one toy from the child's tag and return it to the church office or Fellowship Hall stage. Gifts should not be wrapped, but instead placed in a garbage bag or large shopping bag with the tag affixed to the outside. If possible, please let Wavelene or Lauren Arnold know when you take a tag. All gifts must be returned to the church no later than December 6th.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

If you wrote a check to the church in November, please check your bank statement to see if your check has cleared. Thank you.

Presbyterian Women

Candy and Bake Sale Sunday, December 13



We will be selling Candy, Candy Gift Dishes/Baskets, and delicious baked goods. Orders may be placed this week through the Church Office. Cost is \$6.00 per dish. They are excellent gifts for family, neighbors, friends, teachers, office workers, etc. Thank you for your support for our Christmas Giving Project used to help the Salvation Army, SAFCO, AID, etc.



Salem Community Pantry

First Presbyterian Church is one of a number of churches in Salem that are joining forces to begin the Salem Community Pantry. This effort will replace the joint food pantry with First United Methodist Church in which we have been involved for several years. It is our belief that this joint effort will serve the people of Salem more effectively and efficiently. By-laws are being written and a board is being elected. Our representatives to the board will be Phil Tetlow and Dave Stephens, long-time volunteers at the Presbyterian-Methodist Pantry.

Space for the Pantry is being rented at the northwest corner of Third and Vine Streets. Several **work days** have been scheduled for cleaning this former garage: Monday, November 30 from 9-4, Wednesday, December 2 from 9-4, and Thursday, December 3 from 4-8 p.m. You are cordially invited to help out! Bring any cleaning supplies you can: buckets, brooms, rags, garbage bags, paper towels, and bleach are all needed.

Your Session at Work

At the November 19 meeting, our Session:

- Heard that members of the Congregational Care Committee will serve as Salvation Army Bell Ringers on December 5
- Approved the date of February 14, 2010 for the annual Valentine Potluck Dinner
- Saw a proposed 2010 Budget to be reviewed by the committees
- Committed to the 2010 Apostles' Build Project of Habitat for Humanity
- Heard that our Preschool is having serious financial difficulties due to low enrollment for this academic year
- Discussed the status of members who do not participate in the worship and work of the Church

Our own Mike Newman will be performing in a *Medieval Celebration of Christmastyme* at Christ Episcopal Church in Warren on December 4, 5, 11, and 12. A brochure is in Fellowship Hall.



Worship Service Schedule

Cable TV Channel 9 *Schedule subject to change

Sunday – 2 a.m.*
 Tuesday – 12 p.m., 4 p.m.
 Wednesday – 4 a.m.*, 4 & 9 p.m.
 Friday – 4 a.m.*, 4 p.m.*
 Saturday – 2 a.m.*

The **Per Capita Apportionment due for the year 2010** for the First Presbyterian Church in Salem is based upon reported **active membership** at the end of the year 2008, which was 476.

Governing Body	Per Capita Apportionment	Amount Due
Eastminster Presbytery	\$ 18.67	\$ 8,886.92
Synod of the Covenant	\$ 3.18	\$ 1,513.68
General Assembly	\$ 6.15	\$ 2,927.40
Total	\$ 28.00	\$13,328.00



December

Happy Birthday!

*Joyce Smith (10), Jim Gibbs (13),
Rita Hovis (13), Phyllis Lamb (25),
Charles Gibbs (27), Robert McCulloch Jr (27),
Polly Kendall (28), Juanita Latham (29)*

1 / Tues 8:30-3:00 Preschool (FH) — M/Tu/Th/F
9:30-10:30 Preschool (109)
9:30 Salem Ministerial Association (107)
5:00 Eastminster Presbytery
Committee Night at UPC in
Cuyahoga Falls
6:00 April Circle Christmas Dinner at
Ricky's English Pub; RSVP Lu Ann Cole

2 / Weds 9:00-10:30 Preschool (109)
12:00 Daytimers (FH) —
Program by Rev. Ray Banner
4:30 Pres-Bees Youth Club
7:00 Haviland Choir (S)
7:00 Men's Bible Study (109)

3 / Thurs 9:00 Quilting (110)
7:00 Salem Bird Study Club (110)
**7:00 Committee Night:
Christian Education (106)
Mission I and S (109)
Property and Maintenance (107)
Worship, Music and the Arts (FH)**

5 / Sat 2:00 LOGOS making Hard Tack (K)

6 / Sun 9:00 Advent Workshop (FH)
9:00 LOGOS making Hard Tack (K)
9:00 Adult Bible Study (110)
10:00 Coffee Hour (FH) — Deacons
10:30 Worship
4:30 LOGOS for Grades 6-12 (K)
Making Hard Tack
6:00 Cub Scout Pack 3 (B)

7 / Mon 8:30-3:00 Preschool (FH) — M/Tu/Th/F
9:30-10:30 Preschool (109)
6:30 Boy Scout Troop 3 (B)
7:00 Board of Deacons (107)

8 / Tues 9:30-10:30 Preschool (109)

9 / Weds 9:00-10:30 Preschool (109)
9:00 Feb Circle (Hot Dog Shoppe/107)
9:15 March Circle (110)
12:00 October Circle (Salem Golf Club)
4:30 Pres-Bees Youth Club
7:00 Haviland Choir (S)
7:00 Men's Bible Study (109)

10 / Thurs 9:00 Quilting (110)

13 / Sun 9:00 Advent Workshop (FH)
9:00 Adult Bible Study (110)
10:00 Coffee Hour (FH) — Session
PW Candy Sale & Bake Sale before and
after Worship in Fellowship Hall
10:30 Worship — Haviland Choir Program
4:30 LOGOS for Grades 6-12 (K)
6:00 Cub Scout Pack 3 (B)



14 / Mon Preschool Christmas Party (107)
6:30 Boy Scout Troop 3 (B)
7:00 Finance (110)

15 / Tues Preschool Christmas Party (107)

16 / Weds Preschool Christmas Break thru Jan 3
4:30 Pres-Bees Youth Club
7:00 Haviland Choir (S)
7:00 Men's Bible Study (109)

17 / Thurs 9:00 Quilting (110)
7:00 Session (107)

20 / Sun 9:00 Advent Workshop (FH)
9:00 Adult Bible Study (110)
10:00 Coffee Hour (FH) — LOGOS
10:30 Worship — Children's Choirs
4:30 LOGOS for Grades 6-12 (K)
6:00 Cub Scout Pack 3 (B)

24 / Thurs 12:00 Church Office Closes for Holiday
7:30 Christmas Eve Service
11:00 Christmas Eve Service —
Communion by Intinction



25 / Fri

Merry Christmas



27 / Sun 9:00 Adult Bible Study (110)
10:00 Coffee Hour — April, May Circles
10:30 Worship
No LOGOS