

The Valley Herald

Volume 16, Issue 8

Christ Presbyterian Church

December 2008

Our Mission Statement

Christ
Presbyterian
Church
focuses on a
Bible-centered
personal faith
in Jesus Christ;
shares the
Christian faith
in the
community
through
participation in
community and
church-based
programs; and
strives to allow
the Holy Spirit
to guide our lives.

That First Christmas Eve

It was a clear, bright, Christmas night — a Holy Night — with the stars shining so brightly, they seemed to light up the world. It was the birth of our Savior!

Things had gone very poorly in the world for quite a while, much as they seem to be now. Finances were short. People were worried about potential tyranny in the world, as much as their personal well-being. Sin abounded and people were struggling to grasp onto and hold their faith ... until He appeared.

Weary souls became excited as hope was renewed! You could hear it in people's voices, see it on their faces. A new day, a new morn, had come! "Fall on your knees" in thanks could be heard throughout the land, as if being sung by a choir of angels on that first Christmas night.

People bowed in thanks as their nights of darkness were lit up with the Holy Light of that night. Messiah had come. What a special night it was - a divine night - the birth night of the Divine.

Just as the wise men from the Orient were led by a sweet, gleaming star, we can be led to see, to take our stand at the stable scene. Our hearts set aglow, beaming with the Light of Faith we find the truest Friend - the King of

Kings lying in a very humble, lowly manger.

With Jesus came the teaching to "Love one another." He brought a demonstration of God's love ... the Gospel ... the Good News ... and a new law. No longer would people feel dominated, overrun by fear, sickness, and the economy. He brought peace.

He brought an end to separation from God and each other. Tolerance and inclusivity became the new law - the law of love. He broke the binding chains of depression, failure and domination as people became filled with songs. Sweet hymns of joy echoed throughout the land on this His birthday.

Shall we all join in grateful chorus? Let all within us praise His holy name!

As I went through our church directory, planning to use each of your favorite Christmas songs in our worship, it became evident that the most popular choice was my favorite, "O Holy Night." I hope these words give you a fresh sense of peace, hope and assurance in these troubling times.

God bless you all and have a very Merry Christmas!

— *Pastor Bill*



Our Prayers & Praises:

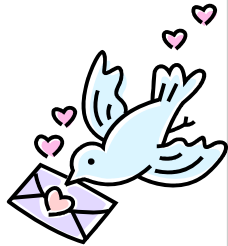


- Continued prayers for Ernie and Hazel Dunn, Gale and Judy Maynor, Bobbie and Herman Zellmer, all CPC holiday travelers and snowbirds (Gurrs).
- A big praise that Bobbie Zellmer's new chemo drug is working and she is feeling much better. We hope to see her back at church soon.
- Prayers for Sgt. Brandon Ceideburg-Soukup, Holly Ceideburg's grandson, who is spending Christmas with his unit in rural southern Iraq.
- Another praise that Charlene's son, Henry, had a very successful cancer surgery.
- Prayers that our our new president, Barack Obama, will lead with wisdom and discernment.

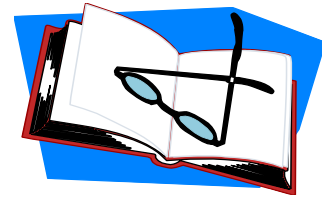
Birthday Wishes

Some recent birthdays in our church family:

- Bobbie Zellmer — Nov. 12th
- Ernie Dunn — Nov. 15th
- Pastor Bill Baltz — Nov. 16th
- Janet Gurr — Nov. 19th
- Charlotte Fenlon — Nov. 26th
- Tom Hollis — Nov. 28th
- Jan Jones — Nov. 30th
- Kaye Vibe — Dec. 1st
- Nancy Pierce — Dec. 2nd
- Jan White — Dec. 4th
- Lucille Vance — Dec. 12th
- Allene Orr—Dec. 23rd
- Mark Wynar — Jan. 1st



If your birthday isn't listed and you would like to be included, please email Jan Jones at jan@engineeredarts.com



Adult Bible Study and Fellowship Opportunities

- **Mondays at 10 a.m.**, a Women's Bible Study meets at the home of Carole Karp. On the 1st & 3rd Mondays, they meet for fellowship and to work on knit/crochet projects. Bible Study is the 2nd & 4th Mondays, using a study of the 23rd Psalm. Their annual Christmas Brunch is Dec. 17th at 11 a.m.
- **Tuesdays at 8 a.m.**, the men of CPC have been meeting for Bible Study at Pastor Bill and Pann's house. They are studying the Gospel of John.
- **Thursdays at 7 p.m.**, resuming in January, Steve Gardner continues his study "Is the Bible Really True?" Come and examine the evidence!
- **3rd Saturday**, the WOW Seniors Group meets for lunch. Call Nancy McCauley for more information at 265-7234. All are welcome to attend.

Meetings & Other

- **Deacons** — 2nd Sunday at 10:45 a.m.
- **Session** — 3rd Thursday at 7:00 p.m.
- **Food Ministry Sunday** — On the 4th Sunday of the month, the Deacons take food donations to the Carson Valley Food Closet to help those in need in our own community. But you can put a food donation in the red barrel at any time.



Join Us

on Sunday, Dec. 14 at 9:00 AM

The CPC CHOIR and Special Readers will present:

“Christmas Around the World”

The choir will be singing lovely carols from many places and times, some familiar and some not-so-familiar, to transport you to Christmases in other lands.

These carols will be interspersed with meaningful stories about their origins and creators.

We pray that in listening to the beautiful music, in hearing the stories, and in learning of the cultural traditions of various countries throughout the world, your eyes will be opened to the wonder and unifying message of Christmas.

Christ is born! Let the whole world rejoice!

Christmas Tea & Bazaar on Dec. 6th

You are cordially invited to the annual Village Presbyterian Church Women's Christmas Tea and Bazaar in Incline Village (Lake Tahoe). The afternoon tea is from 2:00-4:00 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 6th in the church's Fireside Room.

There are always special treasures to find and purchase, plus wonderful goodies to eat, to help us get into the Christmas spirit!

See Charlene Rodman for more information, directions or carpooling!



Christmas Cards for Missionaries and the Troops

As you are doing your Christmas Cards this year, please remember our CPC missionaries and our military. Here are addresses for them:

- Alan and Renee Lindvall: Mission Aviation Fellowship
1239 Willowcreek Dr.
Nampa, ID 83686
- E-Mail to Drew and Linka Parlee in Serbia: dparlee@sbb.rs
- Brandon Ceideburg-Soukup: B/co 2-7 CAV 4-BCT ICO
APO AE -9331-0000
- And another great idea, everyone should send a card to this address:
A Recovering American Soldier
c/o Walter Reed Army Medical Center
6900 Georgia Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20307-5001



Dear Deacon

Dear Deacon,

I love Christmas and the rest of the holiday season, but I know it can be a hard time of year for many people. The Deacons are particularly busy during the advent season, right? What can I do to help?

Love, Noel

Dear Noel,

Thanks for asking! Yes, the Deacons are hoping to have our red Food Closet barrel overflowing with all kinds of nonperishable items.

Here are some suggestions: *canned food with pop-tops, rice, pasta, egg noodles, soup, chili, peanut butter, jam, canned vegetables, soap, shampoo, conditioner, razors, laundry and dish soap, paper towels, toilet paper, feminine hygiene products, diapers, baby food, baby wipes, pet food, and quart and gallon zip-style bags.* If you would rather give a monetary donation, just put your gift inside a once-a-month Deacon donation envelope found in a Sunday bulletin. During the holidays we like to give the Food Closet a cash donation, as well.

We are also asking for support for Project Santa Claus, which includes donating new or gently used warm coats of all sizes. Another part of this project, and dear to our hearts, is the Angel Tree. You will be able to pick a child that needs your help! You can shop for items this child hopes to receive, or you can donate money to hire your very own Deacon Personal Shopper who will track down the desired gifts!

Thank you, Noel, for helping spread the joy of Christmas.

Peace and Love to You! — Your Deacon



Christian Ed News!

Sunday School — At least two to three children attend each Sunday. The children are completing the Fall Study from the "One Room Sunday School" curriculum. The Winter studies will feature "Advent/Christmas," "The Life of Jesus," and "Jesus Begins His Ministry." Volunteer teachers are still needed. The winter series looks to be fun and interesting as well as educational.

Men's Study — Pastor Bill's men's study group continues to meet on Tuesday mornings. At present they are studying the book of John.

Women's Study — The Women's Bible Study group will take a break until the first of the year when they resume study of the 23rd Psalm. They will have their annual Christmas Brunch on December 17th at 11AM. There may be social meetings (to be announced). Bible Study attendance is 8 to 12 and the social time averages 6 to 8 women.

Evening Study — Steve Gardner leads a Thursday evening class, "Is the Bible Really True?" The 7 PM class has been attended by 16 to 20 people. It is really an interesting class. Due to the holidays and travels by Steve and church members, the class will take a hiatus over the holidays and resume in early January.



HANGING OF THE GREENS FOR CHRISTMAS

December 7th

Immediately following our worship service on December 7th, we will decorate the Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall for the Advent/Christmas season. Please join in making our church a warm and inviting place to celebrate the coming of the greatest gift of all time, Jesus Christ. Help will be needed to hang the greens, put up and decorate the tree, and much more, so let's all stay and help make our church home festive.



Help Us Decorate the Church with Poinsettias!

Each year, we look forward to the beauty the poinsettia plants brings to our sanctuary during the Christmas season. If you would like to purchase a plant and take it home after our Christmas Eve service, fill out a form and put it in the offering plate. Plants have been ordered and will be delivered to the church for you. Each plant is \$9.00. Please write your checks to the church and mark them "Poinsettia."



ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTERS

- First Sunday of Advent - November 30, 2008 — *The Maynor Family*
- Second Sunday of Advent - December 7, 2008 — *The Larsen Family*
- Third Sunday of Advent - December 14, 2008 — *The WOW Family*
- Fourth Sunday of Advent - December 21, 2008 — *The Copley Family*
- Christmas Eve - December 24, 2008 — *The Wynar Family*

Angel Tree Reaches Out to Kids in Our Area

Each year, CPC sponsors 12 children as part of the local Angel Tree project, sponsored by the Deacons. This year, we have 8 boys and 4 girls, ranging in age from two to 15. If you would like to participate, simply take a tag from the Angel Tree Bulletin Board, then sign the sponsor list, so Judy knows who has the tag. When you wrap your new gift, it's easiest to simply attach the red angel tag. Otherwise, please put the family number on your own tag.



Gifts are due at the church by Sunday, Dec. 14. Our own "CPC Angels" Claudia Small and Judy Maynor will then deliver your gifts to the County Fairgrounds. This year, they are also offering to do your shopping for you if you'd like! Just chat with them when you pick out your tag.

Remember, your gifts are tax deductible. Last year, 657 children from 261 families were sponsored in our community.

Winter Clothes Needed Too — Another way to help is by donating used winter clothing in good condition. Drop off your winter coats and other winter clothes for kids and adults in area collection boxes. Gardnerville locations are C. V. Medical Center, UNR Cooperative Extension Office, R & T Cleaners, and Raley's Camera Department. In Minden, you'll find collection boxes at M. Scott Properties, Edward D. Jones, and World Gym.

INVITE A FRIEND; BE A FRIEND

This is the challenge for each of us as we enter into Advent and Christmas. Our worship services during the Christmas season are wonderful times to invite friends to worship. We have so many special worship opportunities with **Christmas Music Sunday** during our worship service on Dec. 14th. And, of course, there is our traditional **Christmas Eve Candlelight Services** at 7 p.m. on Dec. 24th with children participating.

People are more open to an invitation during Christmas and Easter. Be praying for who you might ask to come with you and then ask them.

The "Be a Friend" part is to treat everyone who comes through the doors of our church as a friend. Treat them as if they were that special person you invited.



*C.J. Wynar
wants to thank CPC for his care
package. He really enjoyed it.*



*The Wynars are having a
Christmas Open House/
Welcome C.J. Party
on Sunday, Dec. 21st, 2008*

*Drop in any time from
1:00-5:00 p.m. to say hello
1103 Azul Way
Gardnerville, NV*

Heavenly Hope...Heavenly Help!

December 2008

We praise God for His ongoing presence and answers to our prayers. Among the requests of the last month, here are some updates to our prayer concerns.

Bobby (and Herman) Zellmer — "Please let the church family know that things are going much better for me. I started a new chemo drug two weeks ago, and have not had any adverse affects so far. I saw the Dr. today and he is pleased with the progress. We still have a ways to go, but are praising God for his grace and strength during this time. We hope to be able to get back to church real soon. Until then, God bless each one and our prayers for a blessed Thanksgiving." — Herman and Bobbie

Charlene Rodman's son, Henry — Diagnosed with prostate cancer, we prayed for Charlene Rodman's son. "He not only got through the surgery very well, but most wonderful news was the Dr. was able to remove the prostate, lymph nodes and surrounding area, do reconstruction and repairs. He said he was confident that he got all of the cancer. Henry was in the hospital for four days and then will be at home recouping for 2-3 months. Thank you for all of your wonderful support. God is good!" — Charlene Rodman

Carole Karp — We prayed that Carole's second eye surgery would be more successful than the first in removing the floaters and giving her the clear vision she wants and needs. God answered our prayers!

Gale and Judy Maynor — Just when the doctors seem to have found a workable program, something goes wrong. Not only are they trying to find the right chemo drug, but his white cell count is so low that the doctors are threatening to remove his spleen. Continue praying for Gale's cancer battle and for Judy to have the strength and spirit that she needs so badly right now.

Judy sends love and thanks for your prayers and for the many offers to be a driver for Gale. In Judy's own words, "We so appreciate prayers for a body strong enough to receive chemotherapy, and remission. We really enjoyed the warmth and camaraderie at the brunch. We have much to be thankful for! Blessings in abundance to all of you. Luv! Judy"

Christmas Joy Offering

Presbyterians have long celebrated the birth of Jesus Christ by giving generously to an Advent offering. A Presbyterian tradition for almost 70

years, the Christmas Joy Offering dates back to the 1930s when the Presbyterian Church began an offering to supplement the inadequate retirement income and provide supplemental medical insurance for former ministers, missionaries, church workers and their families.

In 1974, racial ethnic education was added, and in 1979, nursing home care assistance was also included. Funds are distributed evenly between the Board of Pensions and racial ethnic education.

This year, we will be collecting this special offering on Sundays, December 14th and 21st. Please note the inserts in your bulletins and give to these two worthy causes as you are lead in this Christmas season.



Session Meetings from October and November

Session met on Oct. 16th and Nov. 20th for its regular monthly meetings, and on Oct. 25th for a Special Session Meeting. Key items are summarized below.

1. **New Members** — Following the CPC Orientation Class on Oct. 18th, Barbara Brophy, Alan and Patricia Moss submitted applications for CPC membership to the Clerk of Session. Those applications were approved at the Special Session Meeting. All three applicants were welcomed into CPC membership during the Nov. 23rd worship service.



New Members

2. **CPC By-Laws** — The current By-Laws of our church date back to March 2001. Changes to the PCUSA Book of Order and the need to make the By-Laws more meaningful prompted Session to form a review committee (Charles Convis, Charlotte Fenlon, and Jim White). The committee did an outstanding job by developing a new draft By-Laws with the additions, deletions, and modifications they deemed necessary. Session reviewed the committee's draft at the Special Session Meeting. Changes were proposed and approved.

The Clerk was tasked to prepare a document for the congregation, describing the proposed changes to the 2001 CPC By-Laws. Congregational approval of the proposed new By-Laws will be requested during a Congregational Meeting in January/February 2009.

One proposed change was lifting restrictions on the maximum number of Deacons allowed to serve on the Board of Deacons, which impacted the selection of Deacons for the coming year, since more members had volunteered to serve than authorized under

the current By-Laws. At a Special Congregational Meeting on Nov. 23rd, the congregation approved lifting the restriction on the number of Deacons.

3. **New Church Officers** —

Session approved effective 1/1/09, the appointment of John Valiquette as CPC Treasurer, and Alan Moss as Clerk of Session.

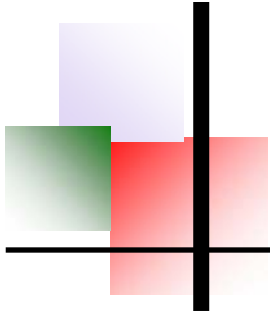
At the Nov. 23rd Special Congregational Meeting, the congregation approved the following recommendations of the Congregational Nominating Committee: Elders: Class of 2011 - *Carole Karp and Patricia Moss*; Deacons: Class of 2011 - *Pann Baltz, Judy Maynor, and John Karp.*; and Congregational Representative to the Nominating Committee - *Nancy Pierce*.

3. **2009 CPC Budget** — The 2009 CPC Budget is under development. It will be addressed at the Dec. 18th Session Meeting.

— Prepared by John Karp, Clerk of Session

Our January-October 2008 Church Finances

	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Total Budget
Income:			
<i>Sunday receipts</i>	67,584.81	65,250.00	77,500.00
<i>Pastor fund</i>	5,000.00	5,000.00	10,000.00
<i>Mission gifts</i>	8,150.00	6,250.00	7,500.00
<i>Interest Income</i>	1,464.81	1,520.00	1,750.00
	<u>82,199.62</u>	<u>78,020.00</u>	<u>96,750.00</u>
Expenses:			
<i>Net Income</i>	(77,580.42)	(81,696.60)	(97,671.60)
	<u>4,619.20</u>	<u>(3,676.60)</u>	<u>(921.60)</u>
Synod Loan Principal:			
<i>Net</i>	(5,021.47)	(5,530.00)	(5,925.00)
	<u>(402.27)</u>	<u>(9,206.60)</u>	<u>(6,846.60)</u>



DECEMBER 2008

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
	1	2 8 a.m.— Men's Bible Study at Baltz Home	3	4	5	6 <i>Christmas Tea & Bazaar</i> at Incline Village
7 <i>Decorate Church</i> following worship	8	9 8 a.m.— Men's Bible Study at Baltz Home	10 7 p.m. — Choir Practice	11	12	13 10 a.m. — Special Choir Practice
14 <i>"Christmas Around the World"</i> <i>Angel Tree Gifts Due</i>	15	16 8 a.m.— Men's Bible Study at Baltz Home	17 <i>11 a.m. — Women's Christmas Brunch</i> 7 p.m. — Choir Practice	18 7 p.m. Session	19	20
21 2-5 p.m. <i>Wynar Christmas Open House</i>	22	23	24 7 p.m. — <i>Candlelight Christmas Eve Service</i>	25	26	27
28 Food Ministry Sunday	29	30	31	<div style="border: 1px solid green; padding: 5px;"> <p style="text-align: center;">Advent Begins on Sunday, Nov. 30th</p> <p>Pick up your Advent Devotional Booklet for this special season & order a Poinsettia!</p>  </div>		

The Valley Herald

Christ Presbyterian Church
1436 Industrial Way
Gardnerville, NV 89410

Visit Our Website:

<http://www.cvcpc.org/>



Isaiah 9:6

*“For unto us a child is born, unto us
a son is given: and the government
shall be upon his shoulder: and his
name shall be called Wonderful,
Counselor, The mighty God,
The everlasting Father,
The Prince of Peace.”*

Christ Presbyterian Church

1436 Industrial Way
Units A & C
Gardnerville, NV 89410
782-3781

**Sunday 9:00 a.m — Worship Service
& Children's Sunday School**

Candlelight Christmas Eve Service
7:00 p.m., Dec. 24th

Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m.
Choir Practice