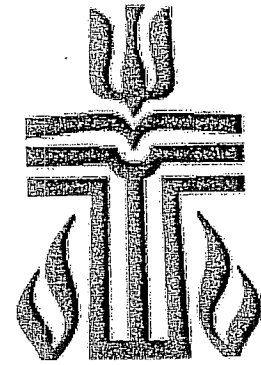




# THE CONNECTING LINK

Hickory Hills Presbyterian Church  
8426 W. 95<sup>th</sup> St.  
Hickory Hills, IL 60457  
(708) 598-3100  
Fax (708) 598-3108  
Email: [HHPC@hickoryhillspres.org](mailto:HHPC@hickoryhillspres.org)  
[www.hickoryhillspres.org](http://www.hickoryhillspres.org)



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DECEMBER 2010

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## Minor Ministerial Musings

I read an article online the other day on msn.com, entitled “10 Obsolete Jobs We Love”. I don’t know anything about the author, but I was interested to see the jobs she had listed as obsolete but “lovable” nonetheless – jobs like milkman, elevator operator, and switchboard operator. Many of us have only seen jobs like that carried out on black-and-white TV shows and movies. Few people have milk delivered anymore, everyone knows that light-up buttons operate elevators, and even if your main form of telephone communication isn’t a cell phone, your calls are connected to their destination absent a pleasant voice asking, “What exchange, please?”

What interested me the most about this article, however, was the motivation for it, a motivation which was not at all mentioned in the article itself, leaving me to speculate as to the reason that anyone would miss those jobs. I suppose that people who once held those jobs would certainly miss them if they were laid off from them only to be replaced by computers. Hopefully, those folks would have been able to train for other work, or even be trained to run or program the computers that had put them out of a job to begin with. But this article seemed to speak to, and from the perspective of, people who had never held these sorts of jobs, or even encountered them in their everyday lives. The article, with its descriptions and definitions of “old-fashioned” jobs, seemed to be addressed to readers for whom these jobs were “before their time.” Why, then, would readers of this article love these jobs, or even miss them, as the article implied that such jobs are remembered nostalgically?

But there was one characteristic that all of the described jobs had in common, and that gave me a hint as to why this article may have been important to the author, and why the author thought the article would be important to her readers. Most of the described jobs were jobs once done by people, which have transitioned into jobs done by computers, jobs like elevator operator and switchboard operator, for instance. Those that didn’t fit into that category were service jobs that simply evolved, for whatever reason, into tasks that people simply do for themselves. People don’t get milk delivered anymore, for instance – they just add it to their grocery list and head off to the store.

In other words, as all of these jobs either evolved or were rendered completely obsolete, the change that made the difference was the removal of the human or relational aspect. And that is something that is missed, whenever and wherever it

happens, whether we notice it or not, and whether or not we will admit it. The voice or handshake that comes with everyday transactions or mundane actions make the everyday and mundane a little more special. As Christians, we know that our relationship with God is intricately interwoven with our relationships with one another. When one diminishes, the other diminishes. When one is nurtured and strengthened, the other is nurtured and strengthened as well.

As we celebrate Advent, as we anticipate the celebration of the day that "the Word became flesh", when God came to dwell among God's people in the form of Jesus the Christ, may we remember the importance of our humanity and our own fleshliness. And may we look for the image and likeness of God in everyone we encounter. May we truly reflect the image and likeness of God in which we were created. May we be truly human.

*In Joyful Anticipation,  
Pastor Lara*

**HHPC  
PRAYER REQUESTS**



- Carol Sack & family in the loss of her brother-in-law, Wayne
- Tom Pearson & family on the passing of Nancy
- Roy Hoffman for health concerns & continued improvement
- Bob Nordstrom for upcoming wrist surgery
- Ellen Betcher for healing
- Gert's son-in-law, Alden, for upcoming surgery
- Dennis & Mary Tarter for strength & direction & health concerns
- Dennis & Mary Tarter, on the passing of their son, Don
- Baby Preston William Cosme for healing
- Shirley Fogg for healing
- The Kahn's granddaughter, Alys, for health concerns
- Eleanor Watson's great niece, Kate

- Lucy's brother-in-law, Bob, & sister, Delores, for healing
- Ivy Taebel's son, Larry, for health concerns
- Enid Scholefield for her eyes
- Dorothy Scholefield for health concerns
- Betty Kitching for health concerns
- Dean Georgetti for continuous healing
- Shannon Bastien for health concerns
- John Bredlau for continuous healing
- Daniel Esparza & family for health concerns
- Richard Larson & his mom for strength
- Marie Hoffman for health concerns & continued improvement
- Carol Sack's sister, Ruth, for healing and strength
- Kevin McGuire for healing & strength
- Kyle Krueger, in Marine Corps
- Dorothy Allen for strength
- Our service men and women and their families
- Our policemen, Firemen, & their families
- DelPrete Family for strength, faith, & hope during Jen's battle

**Prayer Groups meet on  
Tuesday at 6:30 p.m., and  
Wednesday at 9:00 a.m.**

**We encourage you to  
attend this**

**Vital Ministry of our church.**

**\*PRAYER is the ENGINE of the CHURCH\***



## TWILIGHT PRAYER

When we come into God's presence, we are not worthy of his acceptance of us, yet, we are treated like his loving sons and daughters. He is attentive to our every word, He is there for us, His sinful children. What lies upon your heart today? What are your needs, what are your wants?

Gather with us in the library on Tuesday evening, your time spent there will truly be a blessing to us all.

Regards,  
C. Lou Pearson



## PRAYER & CARE

“And when he had taken the book, the four beasts and four and twenty elders fell down before the Lamb, having everyone of them harps and golden vials full of odours, which are the prayers of saints.”

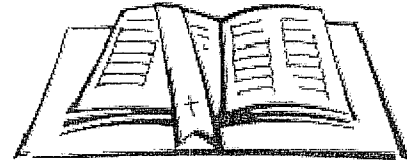
REVELATION 5:8 (KJV)

As I write this report, Thanksgiving is less than 2 weeks away. Our noses will delight in various aromas: turkey, bread, pumpkin pie, etc. Oh how blessed we are!

When Christmas comes, the scents of pine, ham, apples roasting, etc. will fill the air again. But did we ever think our prayers smell like incense?

“For we are unto God a sweet savour of Christ...”  
II CORINTHIANS 2:15 (KJV)

Love ‘N’ Hugs, Arlene



## WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

“Teach me thy way, O LORD, that I may walk in thy truth; unite my heart to fear thy name. I give thanks to thee, O Lord, My God, with my whole heart, and I will glorify thy name forever. For great is thy steadfast love toward me; thou hast delivered my soul from the depths of Sheol.”

PSALM 86:11-13 (RSV)

We are hoping to finish Book III before Thanksgiving week, or by the end of November. The psalms have history and use with overriding themes. The words of C.S. Lewis underline one further important point: “The psalms are poems, and poems intended to be sung: not doctrinal treatises, nor even sermons... They must be read as poems if they are to be understood... Otherwise we shall miss what is in them and think we see what is not.”

Our Christmas luncheon will be December 13 at noon. No classes on the 20<sup>th</sup> or 27<sup>th</sup>.

## PADS UPDATE



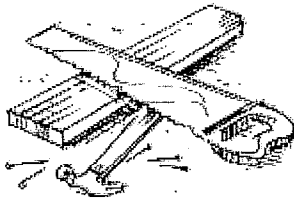
We often think of the millions of people throughout the world who are homeless and without food. We are indeed humbled by that very fact. We, ourselves, are blessed. We provide for our families and there is always ample to meet our needs, with surplus to meet the needs of the homeless in our own neighborhoods.

On November 7, our count for PADS was 64 men and women and again no children were present. Our Sunday evening meal, as always, was greatly appreciated and many words of thanks were conveyed.

Thank you, friends, one and all for your support and contributions to our PADS ministry. A monetary gift is always welcomed. May we never be too self consumed not to think of those less fortunate than we. Amen.

Regards,  
C. Lou Pearson

## BUILDING AND GROUNDS



Free Giveaways to anyone who needs...

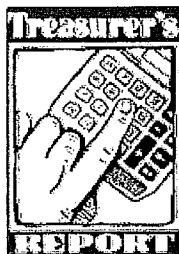
Few sheets of drywall

Couple sheets of Greenboard

1<sup>st</sup> Come, 1<sup>st</sup> Served Basis.

Contact Scott Zimmerman, 708-458-1662 or Charley Huenecke, 708-598-2342 for more info

## OCTOBER 2010 Treasurer's Report



General Fund Income	\$19,928.00
General Fund Disbursements	\$16,753.00

## FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

On Saturday November 6<sup>th</sup> we held our annual craft bazaar and bake sale. We were very pleased that we had a "full house" of vendors. 40 tables were sold in total to outside vendors. We would like to thank everybody who helped with baked goods, we set an all time high with \$547 alone sold at the bake table. We would also like to thank all that helped with the setup and cleanup before and after the bazaar. We have collected a total of \$2600 this year that will enable us to do something for the church that is not included in the budget.

### And For the Upcoming Holiday Season:

Don't forget about our Script service. This is an easy way for us to raise money and for you to save on shopping trips. Jewel certificates can be given to you on the spot and the others, which are ordered, will be given to you the next week. This is a very easy way for us to earn some money for our church to help us be able to have events like the bazaar and the yard sale. So if you have any birthdays, or anniversaries coming up, or Christmas shopping, this is certainly a great gift that anyone would enjoy receiving. How about yourself – I love to buy them for myself and then feel like I have a good reason to go shopping and after I have worked up an appetite I can get something to eat!



## Coming Soon! HHPC Food Pantry!

Starting January 5, 2011  
 Wednesdays 4-6 pm  
 Church Members &  
 Hickory Hills Residents Welcome  
 Anyone who would like to make a donation, would like to get involved, or would like more information,  
 Contact Debbie Zimmerman  
 708-458-1662



## Bring White Gifts

(Non-Perishable Food Items wrapped  
in white tissue paper)

**Sunday, Dec. 19, 2010**

### Wish List

Macaroni & Cheese  
Cans of Vegetables  
Cans of Fruit  
Cans of Ravioli  
Spaghetti-o's  
Hamburger Helper  
Peanut Butter & Jelly  
Beans & Rice  
Spaghetti & Sauce  
Juice Boxes  
Jello & Pudding  
Soups  
Crackers

## DECEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

### **Friday, Dec. 3:**

#### **5:30 pm - Hanging of the Greens Rehearsal-**

If you are involved in the Hanging of the Greens program, please be at the church for Rehearsal at 5:30 p.m. before the Advent Workshop.

#### **6:30 pm - Advent Workshop-**

One of the many Christmas season traditions at our church. The evening begins with a potluck dinner at 6:30 p.m. Then, we make holiday crafts and sing Christmas Carols around the piano. This evening of beautiful crafts, songs, and stories is a night that our kids love and our adults cherish. It is an ideal way to move into the Christmas season. (Please bring a dish to share and a free will donation for our craft projects. See the sign up sheet downstairs).

### **Sunday, Dec. 5:**

#### **10:30 am - Hanging of the Greens-**

Our Children's Christmas Program during the 10:30 a.m. worship service. Our kids tell the story of the birth of Christ and our sanctuary comes alive with the sights and sounds of Christmas. Parents: Please help us by making it a priority to be here with your children. Our whole congregation is blessed with this program.

### **Sunday, Dec. 12:**

#### **9:00 and 10:30 am - Worship-**

We celebrate the **Sacrament of Holy Communion**. We continue to transform our sanctuary as we hang our **Chrismos** on our sanctuary tree, while the sanctuary is decorated with beautiful **poinsettias**. There will also be a **Congregational Meeting** following the 10:30 service.

### **Thursday, Dec. 16:**

#### **7:00 pm - Women's Christmas Tea-**

Another wonderful Christmas Tradition for the ladies of our church. Come and enjoy tea and sweets, singing and fellowship. (See sign up sheet downstairs- RSVP requested. Please bring a plate of your favorite Christmas cookies to share).

### **Sunday, Dec. 19:**

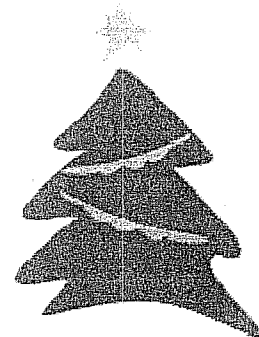
#### **9:00 and 10:30 am Worship-White Gift Offering-**

We bring our food items, wrapped in white tissue, for the needy, before the crèche. At 10:30 our choir presents a special **Christmas Cantata**. Also, at 10:30 **new members** will be received into our congregation.

### **Friday, Dec. 24:**

#### **7:00 pm & 11:00 pm - Christmas Eve-**

Come to worship and celebrate the birth of our Savior, with a candlelight service.



*Hymning and Hawing*

## Peace on Earth . . .

### Conflict in the Church?

*by G. R. Snow*

Over the centuries since Christ's coming to earth as a baby in a manger, the Christian church has celebrated Christmas with joy, with exuberance, and with late-night Christmas Eve services. The Christian church has also faithfully observed the lighting of Advent candles, carefully recalling that the third Sunday is the Sunday the pink candle is lit, and that the four celebrations are of Hope, Joy, Peace, and Love (the center candle, of course, being the Christ candle). But in the last thirty years or so, various church musicians (including me) have encountered a variety of beliefs among pastors and congregations about whether Christmas carols may be sung during Advent, and whether the church parishioners should be restricted to singing Advent carols during Advent. Protests have been raised (Christmastide is only two weeks long!), petitions have been circulated, and people have even elected to leave churches during Advent--though, mercifully, this conflict has not erupted at HHPC, nor do I have any reason to believe that such a conflict will erupt. But, in the spirit of keeping our congregants apprised of church music trends across the country and across the world, I would like to say just a few words about Advent and Christmas music.

First, let's be sure we're talking about the same thing. Advent is a season which looks toward the coming of the Messiah. It celebrates the ways in which God prepared the world, with a focus on the Jewish people, for the coming of Christ. Advent carols celebrate that spirit of expectation, and prophecies are "lifted" from the books of Isaiah, Joel, Malachi, and many other prophets who advised that the Savior would soon be coming.

Christmas carols, on the other hand, celebrate the actual coming of Christ. He is here! Let the world rejoice! Our Savior is among us, say all Christian folk; He is here, and that spirit of joy and realization is reflected in nearly all Christmas carols.

I consistently encourage some use of Advent carols because they are an enhancement of the worship experience during the Advent season. Historically, Advent is a penitential season, when we remember and ask forgiveness for the sins which caused the necessity for a Savior to come to earth. The color of penitence, for both Advent and Lent, is purple. If we rejoice that

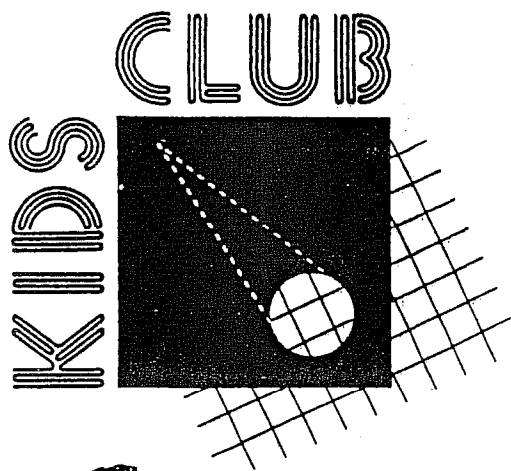
He came all six weeks, we should still devote some time to pondering that our sins, past, present, and future, necessitated His coming.

However, I do not feel it is sacrilegious or inappropriate to sing Christmas hymns during Advent. We are an Easter people--we have a Christ who died and rose again to save us, and it's appropriate to remember this not only on Easter Day but all during the year. By the same token we are a Christmas people--we have a Christ who loved us so much that He was born as a human to live a human life for our salvation, and this is true not only on Christmas Day but all year round. My consistent feeling is that the appropriate time to use a hymn is when it enhances the worship experience. If our pastor preaches a sermon about the significance of Bethlehem as the birthplace for Christ, and the prophecies pertaining to it, I would see nothing inappropriate about singing "O Little Town of Bethlehem" or "Once In Royal David's City" as part of that worship service. I would not encourage scheduling familiar carols exclusively because they are familiar and well-loved carols, however.

In the final analysis, there exists a tremendous wealth of music from the last nine centuries which celebrate various aspects of our Savior and His life and death on Earth. These hymns can be used very effectively--and effectually--to allow the congregation's expression of worship in a blend with the other components of the service. As we celebrate Christ's coming this Advent and Christmas season, let us keep both preparation and realization in our hearts, and sing with a renewed sense of how the hymns we sing enhance the message Christ has prepared for us to receive and ponder.

**BRAIN TEASER:** *Below are several Advent and Christmas hymn titles. Can you tell which is Advent and which is Christmas?*

1. Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus
2. Good Christian Friends, Rejoice
3. Silent Night
4. Of the Father's Love Begotten
5. O Come, All Ye Faithful
6. Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence
7. O Come, O Come, Emmanuel
8. Joy To The World
9. The King Shall Come
10. We Three Kings
11. The First Noel
12. As With Gladness Men of Old
13. It Came Upon A Midnight Clear



Hickory Hills Presbyterian Church  
8426 West 95th Street, Hickory Hills, Illinois 60457  
708/598-3100

Dianne Flynn, *Director*

The birth of Christ is a time for great celebration. During this month our study time opens with the lighting of the Advent Candles. This is a time of special study and reflection. The themes for our study in December are:

*Charting a New Course* - God wants us to grow in our understanding of His people around the world

*Blessings on the Bounty* - God continues to care for and love all He Created.

*Judea Junction* - Because He loves us unconditionally, God sent His Son.

Congratulation to Vitterio S. for perfect attendance in the month of October and for winning the Snicker Balance Contest for this month.

We again welcomed Pastor Lara who introduced the kids to the "Treasure Trunk". Those kids worshipping with us on Sunday will be given the privilege of taking the Trunk home with them, filling it with a treasure of their own and bringing it back the following Sunday when Pastor Lara will talk about it in our Children's Message.

Last minute preparations are being put into our Christmas ornaments that will be placed on the tree at the Brookfield Zoo. We hope you will visit this tree and the many others that are featured at the Brookfield Zoo Holiday Magic. Following the rules of the zoo, the ornaments were made of items which we recycled. Holiday Magic is Saturdays and Sundays in December (except December 25) and the week of December 26 - January 1, 2011.

Just a reminder, Our Family Advent Night is Friday, December 3th at 6:30 p.m. We will feature a shared potluck dinner, holiday crafts for all age groups, and the singing of favorite Christmas carols. This is a great evening for everyone, so plan for it now. The sign up sheet and a display of crafts is located on the lower level of the church. We encourage you to invite family and friends to share this evening with you.

*KIDS CLUB Holiday Schedule:* We will host a Christmas Party on December 20<sup>th</sup>. KIDS CLUB will not meet on December 27 or January 3. We will resume our regular schedule on January 10<sup>th</sup>. On behalf of the KIDS CLUB staff I would like to wish you and your family a Blessed and Happy Holiday Season.

Peace and Joy,  
*Dianne*

**KIDS ARE NUMBER 1 AT THE KIDS CLUB**



## Christian Education

†

Everyone who came to the meeting on the 9th will agree there was certainly enough work for us to do. After packaging all the pieces for each craft, there was also counting, tracing pieces and cutting them out for the crafts we did not package. **Advent Night on December 3rd begins at 6:30 PM** with a dinner. Then the tables are assembled and filled with the crafts used for home decoration or gifts. All the participants end the evening with Seasonal songs around the piano. This is one of those Family Nights which makes everyone smile a little bit more because it is the traditional beginning of our preparation for Christmas.

A small group helped to decorate the **Zoo Tree at Brookfield Zoo on November 20th**. The tree looks wonderful and is filled with the Kid's Club ornaments, garland and the pop top star. It is something you must stop to see when you visit the Brookfield Zoo during the Winter Magic. The families who decorated had a great time afterwards visiting all the exhibits at the zoo.

The Church will be treated to a **"Hanging of the Greens" on December 5th at the 10:30 AM worship service**. The children of the Church will tell the story of the first Christmas as well as explain some of the traditional symbols. There is a live Nativity complete with angels. There are traditional Carols as well as some more up to date songs to help build the mood and understanding of the holiday. The Christian Education Committee would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Attention Ladies! Did you remember to mark your calendars for the annual **Christmas Tea?** It is scheduled for December 16th at 6:30 PM. Bring your friends and relatives and join us. There will be games, singing, storytelling and of course, lots and lots of hot water to make tea. A favorite platter of your favorite cookies to share with everyone would be a thoughtful thing to

bring but not required. A free-will donation at the door will be accepted for our program. If you have not witnessed the angelic voices of the Stagg Madrigal Singers, or listened to Alice Collins speak of Christmas Memories, you really should make this night a priority. Those of us who have attended since the inception, when Alice Galyean first had this idea, know what a terrific night this is to share with all your friends. Hope to see you at the Christmas Tea.

Don't forget to bring in the hats, scarves, mittens, and gloves to decorate the **Warming Tree** and send to Jones Center. Our knitters and crocheters have been busy creating items for the tree but we can do only so much and really could use some help. It is a huge tree, you know. The Children will use the donations during the "Hanging of the Greens" on December 3rd. If you would like to help in another project, we are looking for knit or crochet rectangles measuring 7X 9 inches. We hope to collect enough to make several blankets for donation to the Ronald McDonald House near Hope Children's Hospital. Any rectangles can be brought to the room at the bottom of the stairs (old 5th grade room) or handed to Dianne or Linda.

**The Stampers** will have one meeting in December. We will pull out all the boxes for one more day in 2010. Join us on December 8th at 10:30 AM as we create new cards for the Prayer and Care group. We share our newest designs and encourage our team to keep creating. January 5 and 19 will be our first meetings in 2011. Join us and see how much fun you have in the hour we meet.

If you see Cheryl Howe, Lou Pearson, or Megan Zimmerman, remember to say thank you for their time and effort teaching this winter quarter. **The Christian Education Committee thanks each and everyone of you.** If you did not pick up your teacher's packets yet, please see Dianne.

## Junior High Youth Group

In October we had a great Halloween party. In November we had a lock in. There is always fun at junior high youth group. We always have gym time and played favorite games like Salamander and My best friend. We also played Steal the bacon and Dodgeball. We spend time in fellowship and discussing different topics. Several topics were:

- Respect for ourselves and
- Respect for others and
- The harm gossip can do to us and others.

We learn what the bible has to say about these subjects. We have used Utube to see what other youth have to say about these subjects and we sometimes write our thoughts and share with each other.

We invite all junior high youth to come on Thursday nights at 6:30 to 8:00pm to join us. In the future we will be making junior high youth group shirts and going downtown to ice skate. Come join us.

Bryan Ambrosat, Katie Treccani, Patt Pilgrim

\*\*\*\*\*

## Stories and More

Learning made fun is what we do on Tuesday afternoons with our 4, 5 and 6 year olds from 1:00 to 2:00 pm. The afternoon starts with music and dancing. We went on a musical ghost hunt at Halloween. We always have a story and sometimes we bake or make a craft to take home. We made turkeys from pine cones and fruit baskets for Thanksgiving and are going to make reindeer cookies at Christmas.

This 6 week session we are concentrating on numbers and counting. We work on sequencing and use games and writing exercises to reinforce learning. We invite children to join us as we continue to count to 100. Next week we will be playing number Bingo with numbers up to 40. Come join us.

## Sr. High Youth Group

Thank you to ALL who volunteered to work Senior High Youth Group concession at the Haunted House last month. With all your efforts and time we "doubled" what we made last year...\$452.00! The kids made a decision to donate \$225 to the Lakeshore Christian Camping {LCC} to help save Camp Saugatuck! What an awesome choice. The remainder is being used to purchase the items for the Gift Bags to donate to PADS on December 5th.

Between the special cookies baked by the MAN...Dan Ciametti; the rice krispy treats made by Jean Swearingen, Melanie Swindle and Kim Ambrosat; the "puppy chow" by Kim Ambrosat; and the popcorn, hot spiced cider and hot chocolate...we had a huge choice of SNACKS. Special thanks to Rick and Ruth Steele for again "renting" us the popcorn machine...The support that HHPC gives our children is outstanding and so much appreciated.

Andrew, Brittney, Gabby, and Mike from SHYG and Gordon Home, Carri McKinney, Patt Pilgrim from HHPC...your time given to this "outside" project was a blessing. Dennis, Phil and Kristen Elam, our fire starters and tenders...you kept us warm inside and out.

Thank you and Bless you all,  
Rick and Jeni Vogl & ALL of the SHYG

\*\*\*\*\*

The Senior High Youth Group has added some new faces since the Haunted House. We are thankful for the new friends and welcome Becky, Stephanie, Kyle, Nikki, Ida and Emily.

We are also very thankful for all those who supported the concession stand during the Haunted House run. The proceeds will be used to support the missions the youth have elected to support; Saugatuck and Kentucky Christmas. We have sponsored Christmas gifts for a family in Kentucky the last several years. This year we are also making a donation to LCC, Lakeshore Christian Camping. This is the organization that is working towards keeping the camping ministry alive at the Presbyterian Camps at Saugatuck. This is a mission very close to the hearts of our youth.

We want Saugatuck to be available to others for many years to come.

We continue to work through our theme of "I Believe." We are looking at our personal beliefs and those of the Presbyterian Church (USA). As we have our discussions, I am continually impressed with the strength of the faith of our youth.

By the time you will have read this, the Senior High YG will probably already have served dinner for PADS the first Sunday in December. Sloppy-joes and mac-and-cheese are on the menu. The meal seems to be greatly appreciated. Maybe that's because it is different from their normal fair, or because it is good "comfort" food. We would like to think it is so good because of the love that goes into making and serving it. We are also working on a special project for our service to PADS. We intend to assemble some gift bags for distribution. The gift bags will contain useful item such as: hand sanitizer, Kleenex, deodorant, toothbrushes, hats, gloves, and socks. It is estimated that we will need about 100 bags. If you helped us with your donation of these items, we are thankful.

We do have some fun things on the calendar ahead. We will be blasting each other at Laser Tag on December 18<sup>th</sup>. We are planning a trip to either the zoo or Shedd aquarium. All of us are looking forward to a weekend retreat at Saugatuck in March.

Senior High Youth Group Leaders,  
Rick Vogl, Jeni Vogl, Mitch Huenecke

### MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR UPCOMING EVENTS

#### Friday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>

- 5:30 p.m. Children meet in Sanctuary to Practice for Advent program
- 6:30 p.m. Advent Family Night  
Potluck Dinner and Crafts

#### Sunday, December 5<sup>th</sup>

- 9:00 a.m. Practice for Advent Program
- 10:30 a.m. Advent Program Presented  
"Hanging of the Greens"

## "CHRISMONS" :

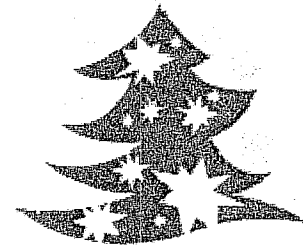
### Christ Monograms

During Advent, many churches display Christmas trees decorated with Christian symbols called "Chrismons." The name comes from the Latin phrase *Christi Monogramma*, which means monogram of Christ.

Most Chrismons are made of wood or Styrofoam, and they can be handmade or purchased at Christian supply stores.

The symbols, which represent aspects of Jesus' life and ministry, include stars, angels, keys, doves, boats and various types of crosses.

## The Legend of The Three Trees



According to legend, three trees grew near Jesus' manger: an olive tree, a palm tree and a fir tree. The olive offered its fruit to the newborn king, and the palm tree gave its dates.

The poor fir, having nothing to give but worship, raised its boughs in adoration, and the angels hung stars on its branches. And so the fir became the first Christmas tree.

# ADVENT FAMILY NIGHT

Friday, December 3

6:30 P.M.

POTLUCK DINNER

CHRISTMAS CRAFTS

CHRISTMAS CAROLS AROUND THE PIANO

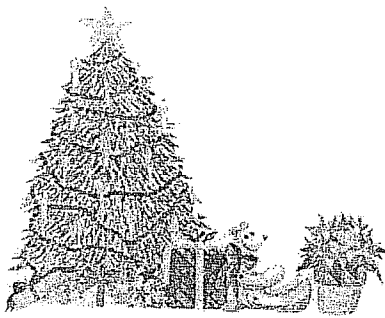
COST:

FOOD DISH TO SHARE FOR OUR MEAL

AND

FREE WILL DONATION FOR CRAFT PROJECTS

Sign up today for this wonderful family event



## We Celebrate Birthdays And Perfect Attendance

### DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Victor Munoz
- 5 Tristan Grisko
- 7 Madison Minet
- 12 Brian Haack
- 14 Danny Rodriguez  
Jenah Fox
- 15 Gabriel Meyer
- 17 Yasmine Fox
- 18 Riley McKinney
- 20 Natasha Swindle
- 22 Kyle Freiberg
- 25 Natalie Orsic
- 26 Tristin Dabrowski  
HalimahAl-Ashqar
- 30 Ava McGuire
- 31 Patryja Kwak

### PERFECT ATTENDANCE OCTOBER

#### 3rd and 4th Grades

Danny Orsic

#### Junior High

LeAnne Kommenich

#### Senior High

Gabriella Ciametti

Brittany Maranto

Sarah Swearingen

Katelin Wheeler

Kyle Wheeler

Andrew Witek

# HANGING OF THE GREENS

## ADVENT PROGRAM

Our kids tell the story of the  
Nativity and our sanctuary  
comes alive with the sights and  
sounds of Christmas



SUNDAY  
DECEMBER 5  
10:30 a.m.  
WORSHIP  
SERVICE


## Sunday School News

*Grades K - 5 - Sue Orsic*

We have continued to study 1 Kings during this fall quarter and have read and talked about Solomon and Elijah. We have learned to follow God, to trust God, and to serve God through our bible verses and lessons. Our class has been small this quarter, but we continue to meet weekly and have fun together. We have learned Bible facts, painted pumpkins, played games, and have learned ways to navigate the Bible. It has been fun to see Shaylin, Danny, Gabby, Jacob, and Holly on Sunday morning. We also welcomed Kelly and Kevin to our class in the last month. Please continue to join the Sunday School class each week and bring a friend too!

*Junior High Class - Patt Pilgrim*

It has been great teaching the junior high class this Quarter. What a great group this is. I love to hear their opinions and I am so happy to see them grow in knowledge of how to use the bible and become familiar with the stories of people in the bible. This quarter we studied about David, Solomon and Isaiah. This past week we learned about how Isaiah followed God's direction and performed miracles for a widow and her son. Thank you Natalie, LeAnne, Ashley, Kyle, Katie, Maddie, Brian, Ronni and Stacey. It has been great having you in class. God bless you.



*An Invitation to All Ladies of our Church and Community*

*You are invited to join us for  
"A Cup of Christmas Tea"*

*Start a holiday tradition and fill your heart with love, laughter and joy.*

*Holiday entertainment provided by  
Guest Speaker - Alice Collins  
and  
Music by the Madrigal Singers of Stagg High School*

*Place: Hickory Hills Presbyterian Church  
Date: Thursday, December 16<sup>th</sup>  
Time: 7:00 p.m.*

*Please bring a plate of your favorite Christmas cookies or sweets  
to share on our refreshment table.*

*A freewill donation will be accepted for the program.*

*Invite a friend and together share in the warmth and love that is  
Christmas.*

*RSVP Requested (Sign up sheet located in Church basement.)*

*Questions:*

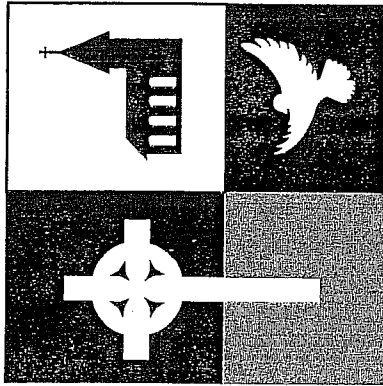
*Please contact the Church office 598-3100*

**Sacrament of Holy Communion- Dec. 12, 2010**

SUNDAY	USHERS	LAY READER
<b>Dec. 5, 2010</b>	K. Dritz, C. Pilgrim, R. Raschke	Dave Delaney
<b>Dec. 12, 2010</b>	T. Brock, T. Lane, H. Zimmerman	Rick Vogl
<b>Dec. 19, 2010</b>	B. Ambrosat, F. Esparza, M. Maranto	Scott Zimmerman
<b>Dec. 26, 2010</b>	D. Barker, D. Ciametti, T. Morrell	Terry Brock
SUNDAY	COUNTERS	
<b>Dec. 5, 2010</b>	Susan Frangella	
<b>Dec. 12, 2010</b>	Susan Frangella, Karen Hoffman	
<b>Dec. 19, 2010</b>	Susan Frangella, Sandy Beal	
<b>Dec. 26, 2010</b>	Susan Frangella, Shirley Brunell	

**L.E.A.D. - SAVE THE DATE!**

**LEADERSHIP, EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT FOR THE WHOLE CHURCH**  
 For elders, deacons, church school teachers, clergy, clerks, youth workers, church musicians, mission workers and trustees - Put LEAD 2011 on your church calendar!



**LEAD 2011**

**BUILDING ON A FIRM FOUNDATION**

**Keynote: The Rev. Bruce Reyes-Chow**

The founding pastor of Mission Bay Community Church, San Francisco, Bruce served as the Moderator of the 218<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).


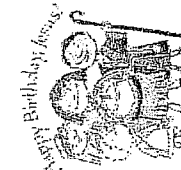

● **Saturday, March 5, 2011** ●  
 8:30 - 3:00 pm

**First Presbyterian Church**  
 550 North Main Street, Glen Ellyn, IL 60137

\$15 Registration fee includes a continental breakfast and lunch

THIS YEAR, LEAD IS PRESENTED IN PARTNERSHIP BY  
**MCCORMICK THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY, THE PRESBYTERY OF CHICAGO &  
 & FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, GLEN ELLYN.**

# DECEMBER 2010

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
<p>5 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent            9:00 a.m. Worship (downstairs)            9:00 a.m. Developing a Christian World View            9:00 a.m. Hanging of Greens Reh.            10:30 a.m. Hanging of the Greens            11:45 a.m. Prayer Shawl Min.            11:45 a.m. Developing a Christian World View            3:00 p.m. Praise Team            5:00 p.m. REV            6:30 p.m. Sr. High Youth Group</p>	<p>6            1:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study            3:30 p.m. Kid's Club</p>	<p>7            9:30 a.m. Cancer Sewing            1:00 p.m. Stories &amp; More            6:30 p.m. Prayer &amp; Care            7:30 p.m. C.E. Meeting</p>	<p>1            9:00 a.m. Prayer &amp; Care            7:30 p.m. Choir</p>	<p>2            6:00 p.m. TOPS            6:30 p.m. Jr. High Youth Group            8:00 p.m. Handbells</p>	<p>3            5:30 p.m. Hanging of the Greens Rehearsal            6:30 p.m. Advent Workshop Family Night</p>	<p>4            9am-12pm Jones Center            Breakfast with Santa            2:00 p.m. Building &amp; Grounds            5:00 p.m. Christmas Carol Outing at Stagg</p>
<p>12 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent            9:00 a.m. Worship &amp; Adult Ed.            9:00 a.m. Developing a Christian World View            9:30 a.m. Youth Choir            10:30 a.m. Worship &amp; Children's Education- Cong. Mtg.            11:45 a.m. Prayer Shawl Min.            11:45 a.m. Developing a Christian World View            5:00 p.m. REV            6:30 p.m. Sr. High Youth Group  <u>Jan. Newsletter Articles Due</u></p>	<p>13            12:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study Luncheon            3:30 p.m. Kid's Club            7:30 p.m. Session</p>	<p>14            1:00 p.m. Stories &amp; More            6:30 p.m. Prayer &amp; Care            7:30 p.m. Mission</p>	<p>15            9:00 a.m. Prayer &amp; Care            7:30 p.m. Choir</p>	<p>16            6:00 p.m. TOPS            6:30 p.m. Jr. High Youth Group            7:00 p.m. Women's Christmas Tea            8:00 p.m. Handbells</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p>
<p>19 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent            9:00 a.m. Worship &amp; Adult Ed.            9:00 a.m. Developing a Christian World View            9:30 a.m. Youth Choir            10:30 a.m. Worship (Camata) &amp; Children's Education- White Gifts            11:45 a.m. Prayer Shawl Min.            11:45 a.m. Developing a Christian World View            3:00 p.m. Praise Team            5:00 p.m. REV            6:30 p.m. Sr. High Youth Group</p>	<p>20            3:30 p.m. Kid's Club</p>	<p>21            1:00 p.m. Stories &amp; More            6:30 p.m. Prayer &amp; Care            7:30 p.m. REV            Committee Meeting</p>	<p>22            9:00 a.m. Prayer &amp; Care            7:30 p.m. Choir</p>	<p>23            6:00 p.m. TOPS            6:30 p.m. Jr. High Youth Group            8:00 p.m. Handbells</p>	<p>24            Christmas Eve              7:00 p.m. Worship            11:00 p.m. Worship</p>	<p>25  </p>
<p>26            9:00 a.m. Worship &amp; Adult Ed.            9:00 a.m. Developing a Christian World View            9:30 a.m. Youth Choir            10:30 a.m. Worship &amp; S.S.            11:45 a.m. Prayer Shawl Min.            11:45 a.m. Developing a Christian World View            3:00 p.m. Praise Team            5:00 p.m. REV</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28            1:00 p.m. Stories &amp; More            6:30 p.m. Prayer &amp; Care</p>	<p>29            9:00 a.m. Prayer &amp; Care            7:30 p.m. Choir</p>	<p>30            6:00 p.m. TOPS            6:30 p.m. Jr. High Youth Group            8:00 p.m. Handbells</p>	<p>31            New Year's Eve  </p>	<p>1</p>

## December Birthdays

**December** 1 – Darlene Delaney  
1 – Melanie Swindle  
4 – Scott Hoffman  
5 – Dawn Morgucz  
11 – Ruth Payton-Hill  
12- Tom Treccani  
12- Bryan Ambrosat  
16 – Gina Ciametti  
19 – Steven Beal  
19 – Cliff Pilgrim  
29 – Laverne Mocarski  
30 – Marge Brumis  
31 - Carla Zabelka

*Any omissions or errors should be reported  
to the church office...*

*708-598-3100 or*

*[HHPC@hickoryhillspres.org](mailto:HHPC@hickoryhillspres.org)*

*\*If you wish to receive *The Connecting Link*  
through email, and no longer receive a paper  
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*and we will place you on the mailing list.*

*Thank you.*

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located around the church. Thank you.*

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