



People's to People
The Newsletter of the People's Church of Dover
United Church of Christ
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JANUARY 2010

Under the Bell Tower

PREDICTIONS

We all want to know what the new year will bring—a recovery in employment figures, the return of the housing market, the reduction of greenhouse gasses, a better business atmosphere, clear signs that the Iraq War is really winding down, signs that the troop increase in Afghanistan is having a positive effect, harmony on Capitol Hill? And what will 2010 bring to each one personally—a revitalized enthusiasm for life, a greater harmony in the family, better grades, a new car? Who will win the Super Bowl? the World Series? Will Tiger Woods return to golf?

I've been reading a bit in ancient history—ancient Greece and Rome. Now I don't believe our country's future can be predicted by what happened to the Athenian republic or to the Roman Empire—there are similarities, but there are a lot of differences (electricity for one). But looking at the over-arching story of human life and the way of nations I think there are a few general predictions we can make. People in powerful positions will overstep the rules. People who have enough wealth will buy up the best stuff. Nations will try to get along, but wars will happen anyway. The prices of imports will increase. The invention of new machines will not make labor unnecessary. Wisdom and insight are to be found among the poor as well as among the powerful, and people who enjoy getting their hands dirty and their brows sweaty will have respect.

A lot of people believe that the Book of Revelation is coming true in our life-time, especially in all the storms, wars and technology. I prefer to listen to Jesus when he says that only God knows about those things, that our job is to live now. But this much of The Revelation to John is true age after age: kingdoms persecute the good, and then fall; people who believe in God do suffer, but have hope; and the most important things to pay attention to in 2010 are not the End Times or international ruckuses: the most important things are the people in your life, the tasks that are before you, and the good will you bring to the living of your days. That's my prediction for 2010.

-Dan



**STEWARDSHIP REPORT THROUGH
DECEMBER 31, 2009**

Annual Church Budgeted Income	\$216,390
Income Weekly	4,161
Budgeted Income to Date	216,390
Income Received to Date	196,684
Budget Expenses to Date	<u>- 216,390</u>
Net Difference	\$ -19,706`

ATTENDANCE FOR DECEMBER

	2008	2009	offerings	
12/07	141	12/06	120	3,971.10
12/14	129	12/13	134	2,732.56
12/21	126	12/20	snow	0.00
12/24	75	12/24	59	1,576.00
12/28	<u>77</u>	12/27	<u>101</u>	14,597.50
	548		414	\$22,877.16

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

01/01	Taylor JONES
01/01	Thomas HASTINGS
01/03	Lillyanne GROVE
01/05	Ethel SEDULE
01/05	Judith REED
01/07	Michelle Hufnal DAVIS
01/08	Barbara VAN SANT
01/08	Arthur S. LEWIS, Sr.
01/08	Ruth Ann KEMP
01/10	Sarah COLE
01/14	Robert ROOS, III
01/20	Tina POTTS
01/20	Tracy SALMON
01/21	Peter BORTZ
01/21	Walter WOREK
01/23	Avery MAYAN
01/24	Jessica CHASE
01/25	William WHARTON
01/25	Jennifer GOLDSMITH
01/27	William MUNTZ
01/28	Jane KENT
01/29	Sylvia LATOURETTE
01/31	Elinor Lee BAKER

If we missed anyone, please notify the church office to get your name on the list.

May God Bless You on Your Birthday



IN OUR PRAYERS

PRAYERS FOR MEMBERS

Thorpe Caldwell – in Westminster Health Center fighting a severe infection.

Sally Childears – recuperating from spinal surgery.

Leonard Guth – home with Hospice care.

Barba Merriwether – in chemotherapy for abdominal cancer.

Cameron and **Caroline Ridgeway** -- in Christiana Hospital NICU after premature birth.

A.J. Senato – waiting spinal-cranial re-assessment.

PRAYERS FOR FRIENDS

Drexel Biddle – Cliff's nephew in GA, heart and lung problems.

Tom Bullard – Rev. Gilliam's brother-in-law waiting for kidney transplant.

Leon "Buddy" Carter – Brenda Polasko's brother: COPD.

Faye Downey – Marian DePue's friend in MO with Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever.

Philip Hanebutt – Paul's brother gall bladder surgery.

Sarah Campbell – Paul Hanebutt's niece scheduled for gall bladder.

Bill Henry – Dodds' friend with Alzheimer's Disease.

Lucille Horsey – Carol Skadsberg's friend.

Carol Lamphier – Kathy Hanebutt's friend, recuperating from back surgery at son's home in North Carolina.

Sue Leonard – Cleah Muntz's sister: spinal deterioration pain.

Keith Nicolls – Fred Hotchkiss' uncle: kidney failure.

Tom Rice – Jerry's brother in PA: coronary surgery.

Debbie Yates – friend of Pat Thompson, chronic health issues.

PRAYERS FOR CANCER PATIENTS

Faye Denkenberger – friend of Marie Clement.

Melanie Giangrant -- friend of Judy Reed.

Michelle Hill – Sue Dodd's cousin.

Barbara Jackson – Cleah Muntz's cousin.

Howard Killian – Angela Downs' father.

Gordon Minner – friend of Jeff and Judy Reed.

Christina Neustad – Betsy Stewart's niece.

Diane Nickelson – friend of Brenda Polasko.

Lillian Schrantz – Cleah Muntz's sister-in-law.

Ethan Williams – 7-yr.-old friend of Hotchkiss family.

Michael Williamson – 12-year-old grandson of Pat Thompson's friend.

HELP WITH CHURCH DECORATIONS

Sunday January 3 after worship we will take down the holiday decorations in the sanctuary. Richard Johnson is leading this project this year, but he can't do it all alone. Can you help? If you can, plan to stay awhile after worship Jan. 3 to help pack away the holiday decorations.

DIACONATE FUND

needy The Board of the Diaconate is the committee in People's Church that oversees worship, fellowship, evangelism, and some of the benevolence. The fund used for benevolence to individuals and families who run into a financial crisis in their utility payments or rent, and travelers stranded in Dover, is called the "Diaconate Fund." There are standards governing the certification of need when Diaconate funds are spent. Last year at this time there was \$3,000 in the Diaconate Fund, and as you can imagine, most of it was used. We retained about \$500 to keep the fund alive until we could rebuild it. During November and December the Diaconate Fund received about \$100. With winter upon us and unemployment still high, needy people qualified to receive our help will have to be turned away, unless you help. Please give what you can to the Diaconate Fund. In your box of offering envelopes, at the first of each month there is an offering envelope marked "Communion Offering." What you place in that envelope goes into the Diaconate Fund to serve the needs of the poor. Won't you help!

Thank You !

Harriet and I want to thank everyone who sent Christmas cards and gave us gifts this Christmas. You made our holidays that much brighter with your thoughtfulness.

Harriet & Dan Griggs

Home-Bound Members & Friends

The holiday season is a wonderful time to remember our home-bound members and friends with a card or a phone call. Addresses and phone numbers are in the church directory or available from the church office.

At Westminster

Monti Bowen Thorpe Caldwell
Millard Biddle

At Pinnacle Nursing Home At The Heritage of Dover

Betty Tomlinson Thelma Lewis

At Home

Irene Deamer Ginny Read
Leonard Guth Rose Mary Ressel
Daisy Hill Dale Stewart
Fred Stites

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Sunday January 24 at 11:00 A.M.

HOLY COMMUNION

Holy Communion on Sunday January 3.

Men's Breakfast

Thursday January 21

8:00 AM at the
Countrie Eatery

SNOW CLOSING NOTIFICATION

If People's Church should be closed on a Sunday morning due to a snow storm, it will be broadcast on the following stations.

WDOV-AM radio
WBOC-TV

WRTX-FM radio
TV channel 27/47

BOARD OF DIACONATE

The Diaconate Covered Dish Fellowship Luncheon

January 17, 2010

Directly after Church

Meat, Rolls and Drink Provided

New Members and Friends of the Church will be recognized

Pictures of the Centennial happenings will be shown

All are welcome bring a covered dish and enjoy the fellowship

Our Church's Website

Have you looked at our church's website lately?
www.peopleschurchofdover.org Special thanks to Elinor Baker for all the work she puts into her job as our webmaster.

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

The Board of Christian Education wishes all the best of health and happiness in the New Year!

There are many to thank for the wonderful Family Devotion Service on Christmas Eve. We thank Dan Griggs for his leadership, and the committee of Louise Warfield, Phyllis Tarburton, and Jean Hitchens for recruiting the nativity participants and for costuming them. We thank Philip Betts for the many rounds of Christmas carols he played. We thank, individually, Mary, Joseph, and Baby Jesus (Erica, Jonathan, and Jayce Richard). We thank our shepherds, Cameron, Aidan, and Josh, and our angels...Morgan and Maria. Our wonderful kings were played by Ti'yon, Wyatt, and Brian. All in all, it was an inspiring service, with about 50 in attendance.

We are thankful for the talents of Cheryl Goldsmith, Jenny Goldsmith, and Jennifer Downs...the planners and leaders at the Advent Workshop. We thank Pat and Rod Thompson and Shirley Hawkins for their time spent with the Secret Santa Shop.

We look forward to 2010 with much excitement. Kim Clendaniel has agreed to join Cheryl Goldsmith and Debra Cole as an intermediate Sunday School teacher for this winter and spring. There will be another Spaghetti Dinner in late winter.

Jennifer Myer has done a great job with the youth, and we look forward to their activities this winter. I would like to begin a free yoga class for those who are interested, and Pat Thompson is interested in teaching her meditative and exercise practice. We do plan to engage everyone spiritually and physically!

The Board will next meet on January 10, after the worship meeting. We will be holding elections and making plans for the new year. I would be remiss if I did not thank the entire Board for their commitment and dedication to our Christian Education program at People's Church...many heartfelt thanks!

Jean Hitchens, Chairperson

Youth Group 2009 Children Ages 6-11

Purpose: **To create a group that not only teaches children about Jesus, but also involves them in community service and social activities that reinforce His teachings.**

Mission Statement: **Teach children to incorporate the lessons of Jesus into their own lives through community service and social activities.**

Jennifer

BOARD OF MANAGEMENT

The Board of Management last met on Dec. 15 to address several outstanding issues.

1. Mark Biddle, John Downs, John Clendaniel and Rev. Dan have volunteered to become apprentices to Harry Otto to learn the intricate workings of the chimes and will be meeting with him on Wed., Jan. 13th at 5pm
2. Max Wallis Roofing started the repair of the sanctuary roof. There is extensive damage to the copper gutters and slate shingles. The cost has increased by \$3-4,000. Once the roof is repaired the two areas of the sanctuary walls will need repainting.
3. A committee has met to recommend the disposition of 5 stained-glass windows. Their proposal is to relocate them to the Women's Fellowship room into lighted wooden boxes.
4. Estimates are being sought to provide protective grates around north side basement windows; to repair the wrought iron gate under the bell tower and to repair the wrought iron fence end in south parking lot.
5. John Clendaniel has volunteered to install cameras at the north side stairwells where we have had "night visitors".
6. **Reminder: Our Sexton, Henry, works 15 hours and our "house cleaner", Carol, works 3-4 hours per week because that is all the church can afford in the current budget. If you see something that needs to be done (ie: trimming the bushes), we would be happy to have you volunteer!! Just let us know!**
7. Next Board of Management meeting - Sunday, Jan. 10th at 11:10am - at which time a new chairperson will be elected.

BOARD OF MISSION & OUTREACH



Food Bank Sunday is January 3rd. The items needed this month include **Beef Stew, Spam, Applesauce (cans), Jello, small boxes, and any other non-perishable items.** All donations will go to **Holy Cross Samaritans Food Bank.** Thank you for your kind donations, they are greatly appreciated. People's Church is asking that all checks be made payable to the **People's Church of Dover**, so that one check can be given to the designated Food Bank for that month. Thank you for all your generous donations.

There are folders provided in each **pew hymnal rack containing Food Bank envelopes.** Your donation can be put in the collection plate on any Sunday.

Thank you for your kind donations to the **First Baptist Church Food Bank** for the month of June. There were 60 food items donated and \$60.00 collected. All gifts were given to the **First Baptist Church Food Bank** for the month of June. Your generous offerings are greatly appreciated.

Sue Hunt and Ruth Harris
Board of Mission & Outreach

VOLUNTEERS

Flowers

01/03	Poinsettias
01/10	Ruth Ann Kemp
01/17	Goldsmith's
01/24	Louise Ferguson
01/31	John Paradee

Liturgist

01/03	Ruth Harris
01/10	Jennifer Myer
01/17	Joan Caulk
01/24	Phyllis Tarburton
01/31	Michelle Caulk

Greeters

01/03	Sandra McNinch
01/10	Cheryl Goldsmith
01/17	
01/24	
01/31	

Ushers

01/03	Ginny & Chip Stewart Louise Warfield Karl Swift
01/10	Lyn Arnold Jim Miller
01/17	Karl Swift
01/24	
01/31	Karl Swift

If you would like to usher or greet on any given Sunday, please sign the sheet in the back of the church or call Sandy McNinch. We need 1 or 2 greeter and 4 ushers each Sunday, so if you can take a turn please do so.

Sermons & Scriptures

January 3	"Grace Upon Grace" Ephesians 1:3-14; John 1:10-18 Holy Communion
January 10	"You Were Baptized into Christ" Acts 8:14-17; Luke 3:15-17, 21-22
January 17	"Who Was Jesus?" 1 st Corinthians 12:1-11; John 2:1-11
January 24	"The Place of Scripture" Nehemiah 8:1-3,5-6, 8-10; Luke 4:14-21
January 31	"Habit Can Be Terminal" 1 st Corinthians 13:1-13; Luke 4:21-30

YOGA ANYONE?

IF YOU WOULD BE INTERESTED IN A ONCE-A-WEEK FREE YOGA CLASS AT PEOPLE'S CHURCH FOR ABOUT SIX WEEKS THIS WINTER, PLEASE GIVE CINDY HOTCHKISS, IN THE CHURCH OFFICE, YOUR NAME AND NUMBER. IT WILL BE ELEMENTARY INSTRUCTION AND EASY, NON-STRESSFUL STRETCHING.

Women's Fellowship

The ladies gathered on Monday, Dec. 7th for our annual Christmas covered dish luncheon. If you missed the luncheon, you missed some wonderful recipes!

The "Secret Santa Workshop" sponsored by the Women's Fellowship was a huge success. A special thank you to all who participated and to Jean Hitchens and Pat Thompson who chaired this event.

RADA cutlery and more are still available. Please see one on the members to order.

Members agreed to host another "Fat Tuesday" pancake supper on Feb. 16th, the eve of Ash Wednesday.

Our next meeting will be Jan. 4th at 12:30pm where we will solidify the program for 2010.

Caring Hearts Helping Hands (698-1900)

A big hearty thank you to all who helped provide a wonderful Christmas to 93 families (approximately 400 people). Our final day of distribution was delayed a few days due to the snow, but our clients were over-whelmed by the generosity of our wish-grantors.

We are currently accepting children's gently used and new fall and winter clothes; furniture, small appliances, kitchen items, linens, gently used board games (with all the pieces included) and always need cleaning supplies, paper products, personal hygiene items, and gifts for teen birthdays.

Our office hours are every Tuesday, 10 am - 2 pm; the first Wednesday evening of each month, 4:30 pm - 6:30 pm and the first and third Saturday of each month, 10 am - 12 pm. We are always looking for volunteers to help sort and hang gently used donations that come into our warehouse next to Jonathan Landing Golf Club house. Please feel free to come by any time.

If you are interested in helping or know of any teens or college students who need hours of community service, we would be happy to have their help as well.

Thanks again for all your support.

Fran Clinton and BJ Van Kavelaar

Your Church on the Internet

www.peopleschurchofdover.org

webmaster: Elinor Baker

www.chesapeakeucc.org

our local UCC association
webmaster: Rob Cox

www.cacucc.org

Central Atlantic Conference

www.ucc.org

National Setting: United Church of Christ

→ www.ucc.org/news

denomination's magazine: United Church News

www.iucc.org

web community and Twitter contact

www.ucc.org/disaster/swine-flu.html

information & resources about the H1N1 virus