

Volume 11
Issue 1
JAN 2011

Installation to be celebrated for Rev. Komperda -- Jan 23, 2011



Please join the members and friends of PPUCC as we celebrate the installation of our new pastor Reverend Jon Komperda on January 23, 2011 at 3:00 p.m. Dan Busch, Association Minister and others will be present at this important service for our church. A reception honoring the dignitaries and newly installed pastor will follow the service.

Mark your calendars and plan to attend!

POINT PLACE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Parish Paragraphs

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Weekly Schedule:

- Sun, 9:00am —Church School
- Sun, 10:30am —Worship Service
- Sun, 11:30am—Coffee Hour
- Wed, 12:00N—Bible Study
- Wed, 6:00—Simple Supper
- Wed, 6:30 pm—RECESS Worship
- Thurs, 8pm—AA & Al-Anon Meeting

From the **PASTOR**—

As I write this, it is still the season of Advent and we have yet to celebrate Christmas. I know that as you read this, the season and celebration are in the past (Happy New Year!). Still, I wanted to share with you one of the lessons I learned during Advent this year.

It was my first time this year planning and carrying out an Advent season. Though I've spent most of my life celebrating Christmas, we all know that it can be easy to go through the old traditions without thinking. That changes when your job is to make the traditions happen. So I spent some time doing some reading about Advent. To be honest, I was looking for details: colors, candles, things like that; but as I looked, I became far more interested in the underlying "reason for the season." And what struck me most was a realization about why we have a season of Advent (or a church calendar for that matter) in the first place. Many of us assume it's so we can experience the joy of Christmas/ Easter/etc. during that season. We look forward to the season, or maybe we dread the season, but regardless, it's about the season. In reality, Advent is more of a just-in-case: just in case we've been a little distracted, it's there to make sure we can't go a year without resting in the amazing truth that God came here to be with us...and he's coming again. This is a reality that is meant to permeate our lives every month and day of the year.

As you read this in January, you may well be worn out from the "Christmas season," or at least relieved that you made it through. That's not how it's supposed to be. Advent and Christmas are meant to take lives that may be running a little dry on grace and love and soak us for a month in the miracle of God-With-Us. If we are doing Advent right, we

From the **PASTOR**

enter January propelled into the new year with the fuel of the knowledge that God loves us and became one of us. We can be propelled into another year of loving, serving, sharing, and proclaiming because God lives that life with and even fuels it with his Spirit-With-Us. Advent is not about the season, but rather a time to center on what our whole lives are about: being God's representatives to the world as he was when he came to live and walk among us. May it be so



Sneak Peek: Speaking of the tendency to go through the motions of religious activity, we're going to be spending the next couple months of sermons talking about **That Thing We Do: Worship**. Everything we do in a worship service—from Call to Worship to Baptism and Communion to Benediction—has a wonderful, meaningful, and even biblical tradition and purpose. I hope it will be a time to reinvigorate our Sunday mornings so that they too can become an event that propels us to represent Jesus to the world with our whole lives.

LIBRARY NEWS

Check out the library! We've purchased (thanks to the Living Memorial Fund) some new material to jumpstart our library. These materials range from fiction to biography to wisdom for living the life of Christ to Bible study tools. Each month, I'll preview a couple of our new books, but you can see the whole set on the table in the library.

God's Smuggler, by Brother Andrew. Hear the story of this man, who followed God's call to smuggle Bibles past the Communist iron curtain to the struggling but faithful Christians who still worshipped and shared the message there. You will be captivated by the stories, impacted by the lessons in faith, and wowed by the glimpse of what God can do when we are willing to risk everything and trust him.

How to Read the Bible for All Its Worth, by Gordon Fee and Doug Stuart. Being able to meaningfully understand the Bible is closer than you may think. Sometimes we just need some tips on how to read some of the Bible's different types of writing. This book gives pointers for how to navigate through sections of law, poetry, prophecy, narrative, and the rest of the Bible's writing styles.

God's Big Picture, by Vaughan Roberts. As we've talked about in *Recess* this fall, the Bible is—at heart—a story. This book takes us through the Bible's overarching story so that we can have a better understanding of where we are and what's going on when we open our Bibles.

—
A Sincere Thank you to all



We would like to thank all of you who contributed to the Holiday Basket request. We know that when you sit in the pews in Church that you may think there is no one in our congregation who might need a little help. But when we contact the minister for names of people who could use our assistance, we always seem to come up with names. We were able to help eleven people at Thanksgiving and twelve at Christmas. Your generosity is wonderful and we are sure the people who received the gift cards appreciated your willingness to help. Thank you so much!

..Moment With The Moderator

Dear God,
 With Your help, we made it through 2010
 With joys and sorrows, and then,
 You brought us into 2011.
 We know you will be with us again
 As we sing Your praises, follow Your example
 And Receive your love.
 Hope, peace, joy and love –
 All these come from You, O God, above.
 Amen.

Lori Winne

Moderator 2009-2011



General Fund (as of 12/20)		
	December	Year-to-Date
Expenses	11,466.92	140,425.36
Giving	19,611.14	124,513.36
Difference	8,144.22	(15,912.00)

FEED MY SHEEP Talk.....



The program continues to serve the community – in November we served 76 meals including meals delivered to our home-bound church members and friends. During these colder months our diners especially appreciate the friendly atmosphere and warmth and hospitality offered to them as they linger over their dessert to talk with friends and tablemates. Your church is a welcoming place for them to find a meal, shelter from the elements and a warm and friendly atmosphere. Thank you to all!

In January we've planned a meal of Ham, applesauce, baked potatoes, corn, rolls & butter and assorted desserts. (We're trying to use up the variety of dessert items we have in the cupboard). Mark January 25th from 5 -7 pm on your calendar and come on down and help or just stop by for a meal. Food donations should be left at the church by Sunday, January 23rd.

FEED MY SHEEP Walk.....

You can be a part of this program by –

Volunteering -

to help set up for the dinner

to help cook the food

to serve during dinner

to help with clean up

to help with publicity or yard sign placement

to deliver a meal to a church member's home

or donating–

Food and supplies

Cash for purchase of meat and perishables.

We are in need of donations of

- containers of pre-sugared drink mix – any flavor

- aluminum foil

- butter

- can of decaf coffee

- jars of applesauce (regular or with cinnamon)

Sign up sheets are available in Paterson Hall if you are interested in volunteering or donating, or you may call Tina Mockbee 419 276 0637 or Lori Winne 734 848 4120 for more information.

NEWS and NOTES

COFFEE HOUR SERVERS NEEDED

Open dates remain on the coffee hour schedule in Paterson Hall - please take a moment to sign up for a date to sponsor the coffee, tea and optional cookies/baked goods. Make it a family event or join with friends and sponsor together. Many hands make light the work – why not sign up for a date today and fill the calendar in Paterson Hall. Questions – see Tina Mockbee or call 419 276 0637.

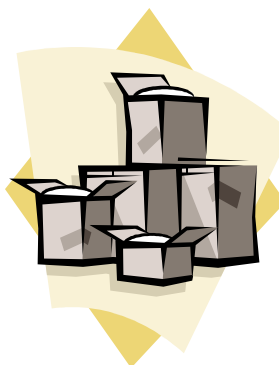


THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HELPED WITH THE HANGING OF THE GREENS!

The Board of Diaconate thanks those who graciously gave up their Saturday morning to deck the sanctuary in Christmas finery – Jim Armstrong, David Browning, Chuck, Leslie and Charles Geletzke, Jamie & Tina Mockbee, Alan Montague, Amanda Winne, Tami and Kim Wioland and Diane Yarrito.

REMEMBER - WHAT GOES UP MUST COME DOWN!

Please mark your calendars to help the Board of Diaconate remove the Christmas Decorations from the sanctuary and surrounding areas. On January 5th during Recess at 6 pm we will pack up Christmas for another year. Please help us take down the decorations for storage.



Recess Resumes Wednesday January 5, 2011

Prayer Shawl Ministry



This amazing ministry is a wonderful way we can all be apart of God's work in caring and praying for those in need, whatever that need may be. We thank everyone for his or her on-going support of this ministry. We are always in need of more shawls and hope to also begin pocket shawls in soon. We would also like to remind the whole congregation that this ministry includes you.

We are a small group and cannot be aware of every need, therefore we rely on the members of the congregation to let us know or distribute the shawls as they are in need. Please remember to check the list in the notebook that stays with the bin downstairs in Paterson Hall to see if someone has already received a shawl or not. So many of you have contributed beautiful shawls and so many have already been shared. Anyone can be a part of this ministry, you can make a shawl, give a shawl, donate yarn, make cards to give along with the shawls, and pray for those making the shawls and those who receive them. There is a box downstairs in the church marked "Prayer Shawl Ministry" to place finished shawls in, or you can also retrieve one from the box to give to someone. If you take one, please write a note in the book saying whom you will be giving the shawl to, so that we are sure to pass around shawls to all who need them without duplicating." If you have any questions, ideas to share, or other ways you wish to be a part of this please call Susan Korecki at the church or at 419-726-0940.



ALTAR ROSES



December 5 2010 Honoring Jim And Donna Armstrong.

December 12, 2010 In memory of Virginia Birchmeier.

December 19, 2010 In memory of Gladys and William Armstrong, Sr.

Donations to the General Fund by Mr. & Mrs. Matthew Armstrong

ELIZABETHANS

The Elizabethan's meeting of December 6th began with much happy munching from our Snack-Night table. There was such a variety to choose from - candied pecans, fudge, chocolate topped bars, spiced crackers and beef rolls to name a few. We indulged and had a grand time.

Another joy that evening was having Ruby Usher back with us again after having recent hip surgery. She is having a good recovery with physical therapy helping get her back on her feet again.

Ruby then opened the meeting with devotions and read a story titled "My First Doll" which turned out to be a Betsy Wetsy doll from a few generations past. It brought back memories for some of us having had the same doll for ourselves or our children. The fun happenings with the doll made a happy beginning for our meeting. Ruby concluded her reading with a prayer.

Our treasurer, Bonny Beebe reported \$307.55 in the Elizabethan General Fund and \$323.60 in the Penny Fund. Receipts from Kroger Community Rewards program for three quarters of the year 2010 was \$789.05. A fourth quarter check is anticipated soon. We received a total of \$137.06 for the entire year of 2010 from Meijers Rewards program.

It was decided that, as in years past, we would send monetary gifts to our pastor and the church's staff. A check for \$100.00 was given to the Kids Camp Fund.

An original plan of the Elizabethan's was to cover the cost of new roasters from the Penny Fund for the church's kitchen. As many very generous contributions were made to the Feed My Sheep effort, sufficient money was raised to pay for three new roasters and our Penny Fund money was not needed. Therefore, our new plan is to investigate the cost of new coffee makers and use the Penny Fund money, which also had many donations, for the new appliances.

After the business portion of our meeting was completed, we settled down to write and address Christmas greetings to our church shut-ins. We think of them always and keep them in our prayers.

With the hard winter months approaching, it was decided that we would not meet in January and February of 2011. To make up for the two lost months, we will meet in July and August even though some will be on vacation.

Our next meeting will be Monday, March 7, 2011 at 7 PM. We are a fun and welcoming group and are eager to have you join us. Please come!
Elizabethan News



This is the first Parish Paragraphs that will not be mailed in bulk. If you know of someone who would like to receive a hard copy of the Paragraphs and cannot pick it up at the church, please have them contact us with their name and mailing address. If you would like to help us save on printing costs and have not received this edition by email, please contact our Secretary, Linda Hassen, with your updated email address.

office@pointplaceucc.com

Thanks for helping us "GoGreen".



- 1 Skip Berry
- 1 Rochelle Trudeau
- 2 Brian Hedges
- 4 Bob Harrington
- 4 Greg Funk
- 4 Mindy Papera
- 9 Elmer Berry
- 9 Todd Slater
- 10 William McCord
- 10 Erica Winne
- 10 Cori Bellair
- 11 Clif Trudeau
- 12 Don Leister
- 15 Becky Chesko
- 15 Brandon Motter
- 19 Bud Allen
- 25 Kim Marshall
- 26 William Dobson
- 27 Marlene Berry
- 27 Larry Shaw
- 27 Ruby Usher
- 28 Tyler Crane
- 28 Thomas Papera
- 28 Jennifer Woodall
- 29 Courtney Motter
- 29 Isabell Rohweder
- 30 Wes Knight



HAPPY ANIVERSARY

- 12 Steve and Vicki Tower
- 19 Steve and Pat Ambrose



JAN.



Poinsettia Dedications

In Honor of:

From:

<i>Mr. & Mrs. James Armstrong</i>	<i>Matt, Anna & Delaina Armstrong</i>
<i>Jim & Donna Armstrong</i>	<i>Evelyn & Dick Berkhoudt</i>
<i>Larry Cowles</i>	<i>Gail Church</i>
<i>Mickey & Jim Debth</i>	<i>Evelyn & Dick Berhoudt</i>
<i>Luella Schneider</i>	<i>Kathy Placzkiewicz</i>
<i>Ginny Seybold</i>	<i>The Mockbee Family</i>
<i>Our family and the special blessings of 2010</i>	<i>Clif & Cindy Trudeau</i>

In Memory of:

From:

<i>Carol Aurandt</i>	<i>The Mockbee Family</i>
<i>Virginia Birchmeier</i>	<i>Matt, Anna & Delaina Armstrong</i>
<i>Debth Family</i>	<i>Jim & Mickey Debth</i>
<i>Jill Geletzke</i>	<i>Chuck & Leslie Geletzke</i>
<i>Joyce & Chuck Geletzke</i>	<i>Chuck & Leslie Geletzke</i>
<i>Lucille Hanline</i>	<i>Joyce Schulz</i>
<i>Florence Johnson</i>	<i>Evelyn & Dick Berkhoudt</i>
<i>Florence Johnson</i>	<i>Maynard Johnson</i>
<i>Our loved ones</i>	<i>Clif & Cindy Trudeau</i>
<i>Placziewicz Family & Friends</i>	<i>Kathy Placzkiewicz</i>
<i>Harold & Eleanore Price</i>	<i>Chuck & Leslie Geletzke</i>
<i>Dorothy Reinhart</i>	<i>Bonnie Nelson</i>
<i>William Schulz</i>	<i>Joyce Schulz</i>
<i>Robert Seybold</i>	<i>The Mockbee Family</i>
<i>Karen Smith</i>	<i>Miranda Withrow</i>
<i>Shirley Smith</i>	<i>Bonnie Nelson</i>