

The Parish Portrait

Volume 1, Issue 2

January 2010

From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As we begin a new year, often we reassess our priorities. It's always a wonderful to set new goals. However, in prioritizing our goals for the future, we must always be certain that God remains number one. I think you will find the following account to be a good lesson for us all.

A pastor was preparing a message for an upcoming Sunday, and he wanted to use the famous painting, *Christ at the Door*, by William Holman Hunt as an illustration. He searched the Internet for the image, found it, and began to download a digital picture of the painting. Something went wrong. He didn't receive the whole file. He decided to delete the file and start over. He pressed the Delete key, and the computer, as computers do, asked for verification on the command. On the monitor appeared the question, "Are you sure you want to delete Christ?" – *what really counts*, (Nashville, TN:Thomas Nelson Inc., 2005), p. 142.

So my dear friends, as you set your goals for the New Year, above all things, don't "Delete" Christ. While setting priorities, always remember "The greatest is love, and

The Greatest loves us."

Yours in Christ,

Greg

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Finance Committee Report

January starts the new financial year for the church and with it a new fiscal budget. Attached is the 2010 church budget. We have broken the budget down into four categories to hopefully make it more user friendly and to give you a better understanding of where you're weekly offerings designated to the General Fund are being disbursed.

1. Payroll related expenditures. These expenditures include the Ministers salary, health insurance, travel expenditures, and continuing education. It also includes the custodian and choir director's salaries. Due to the decline of the General Fund weekly offerings over the final six months of 2009, the Finance Committee approved a wage freeze of the Minister, Custodian and Choir Director salaries for 2010. This is by no means meant to be interrupted the Finance Committee is not satisfied with their current job performance in their service to the Church, but is based solely on the current economic condition of the church's finances, and that we expect the minister's family health insurance plan to increase by \$3,376 in 2010.
2. Building and Maintenance Expenditures: These expenditures include utilities, building insurance real estate taxes and the Trustees repair fund. These expenses are budgeted for the church building and the parsonage. We were informed by our building insurance carrier that our building insurance will increase by \$2,101 in 2010. This is the only change made in this category for 2010.
3. Office Supplies, Committee Expenditures and

United Methodist Men

The United Methodist Men would like thank everyone who assisted in our annual Christmas tree project. Your donations enabled three local families to celebrate a joyous Christmas.

The United Methodist Men will have a breakfast meeting with the United Methodist Women on January 10, 2009 at 7:30 A.M. in the fellowship hall. The men will prepare the breakfast and the ladies will provide program. Please make meal reservations with Bob Wertenberger by January 3, 2010.

Mission Committee

The mission committee is in the early stages of planning their annual winter mission trip. Our goal is to find a place needing help from a natural disaster such as a tornado or hurricane. We also like to take advantage of this time to go far enough south to find some sun and warmer temperatures. We are currently considering some needs in Florida. Our normal trip time is the last week in February to the first week in March. Along with doing some good work, we really will have a good time.

So if you have some time to give, I'm sure you will return to Convoy with more blessings than you feel you gave. Besides the work we do, we have several opportunities to see some sites and enjoy different places. If you are interested in more information or to express interest in going, please contact Dick Miller or Jon Hall.

Also on the mission front, you are to be commended on your mission giving through 2009. Through early December you have given over \$9700 to our various projects. With the economy what it is and the other projects around the church that have ask for your support, we are quite satisfied with the response.

Joyful Noise

Practice is held Wednesdays after school. Transportation and snack provided. Joyful Noise practice will resume Wednesday January 13th.

Administrative Board

Beginning in January, meetings are held the fourth Thursday of every month at 7:00 P.M. .Administrative

Board Chairman, Rick Mollenkopf

The administrative board would like to invite all to attend. We are deciding on the direction of many important issues that face our church family. We would love to have input from everyone.

Trustees

The Trustees would like to announce that based on a poll of Sunday 9:30am attendees, the roof projects has been post posted until spring time for better working weather.

Trustees meet every third Thursday of each month in the Adult Fellowship Class Room. 2009 - Glenn Gehres, Randy Bullinger, Marilyn Elder 2010 - Jeff Gleckler, Nikki Beougher, Ted Kiehl

Contact chairman, Ted Kiehl for more information

Christian Education

We're bringing back the ever popular Movie Day Lunch Bunch to follow Sunday School January 24th. Snacks and beverages will be provided.

Convoy United Methodist Church Sunday School classes recently collected items and were able to send 8 large flat rate boxes for the Adopt-A-Platoon program. The program matches active platoons serving overseas with interested groups or individuals. The program can be slated as a one time donation or a multiple giving opportunity. The church members gathered item during the month of November to coincide with Veterans' Day and to allow for delivery prior to the holidays. The designated platoon is a group of 21 medics currently serving in Iraq. Thanks to all who participated to make this first time project a success.

An old-fashioned taffy pull was held during the Sunday School hour following Youth Sunday. There were 32 first timers under the expert guidance of Glenn and Cathy McClure. Participants were asked to bring a canned good to benefit the Helping Hands Food Pantry, in an effort to pull together to combat local hunger.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

If you have any upcoming events you would like to have included in the next Parish Portrait please e-mail klpp1985@gmail.com or write it down and put it in the box marked Parish Portrait in the vestibule.

UMM / UMW Breakfast	January 10 th 7:30am
Movie Day	January 24 th following Sunday School
Valentines Supper	Feb 14 th 11:15am
Administrative Board	Thursday January 28 th 7:00pm
Trustees	Thursday January 21 st 7:00pm
Lions Club Meetings	1 st & 3 rd Monday October thru May

A Blast from Portraits Past

10 years ago, January 2000

“Take a look at what’s happening and changing.”

The Church Library has its beginnings and the UMW donates money to purchase the “Chicken Soup” book series.

20 years ago, January 1990

“A personal 🎵 from Phyllis.”

Phyllis Rice takes over as UMW president in January 1990 from Nancy Harting. Phyllis penned a very nice note to the church praising the work of her predecessor and excitedly announcing the plans and projects to be undertaken by her administration.

30 years ago, January 1980

We all know times are a changing, but our little pioneer Louise Wertenberger was the Administrative Board Chairman for 1980. For comparison sake, the church budget in 1980 was...\$51,468.00

Miscellaneous Expenses: These expenditures include Christian education, Worship committee, youth group, office supplies, etc. We reduced the budgeted expenditures for the Evangelism Committee, Pastor Parish Committee and for Youth Camp Enrollment based on the review of the 2007, 2008 and 2009 actual expenditures for these line items. However, if these committees do exceed their allotted expenditure amounts, adjustments will be made to these line items during the year. Church recreation increased by \$200 due to an increase in sanction fees for the softball team.

4. Conference and District Apportionments: These amounts are set by the conference and district. For 2010, our conference and district apportionments will decrease by approximately 10%. We have been able to remit 100% of our district apportionment amount in the past, but have not been able to meet our conference apportionment commitment for the past two years. We hope to be able to remit a greater portion of the conference apportionments in 2010 than we have in 2008 and 2009.

Additional items the finance committee took into consideration when compiling the 2010 budget that does not appear in the budgeted line items but could affect our annual budget in the future include

- The church currently has a \$60,000 Loan for the replacement of the roof. Loan is for 10 years and has a monthly payment of approximately \$669.00
- Once the Roof Project is completed. Several church members have expressed an interest in installing an elevator or some other type of device to gain access to the basement. This would require additional funds not currently included in the church or trustees budget.

I hope this explains part of the planning and decision making process the finance committee takes into account in compiling the annual financial budget for the church. If you have any additional questions pertaining to the budget, please feel free to ask a member of your finance committee.

CHURCH NOTES TO KNOW

FLOWER CALENDAR

The new flower calendar for 2010 is on the bulletin board. The price is \$27. Please sign up for the Sunday you are that interests you.

NEWSPAPER ADVERTISING

If you would like to have an article published in any of the local newspapers. Please let Margaret Miller know at: 419-749-2513

Valentines Dinner

Dinner this year will be held on Sunday February 14th. Serving time is 11:15am to 12:30pm. The money raised will go to the mission team for use on their mission trip.

Church Nursery

It will be available during the worship service. If you would be able to help out a Sunday, please contact Tina Pawlick, Nursery Coordinator or there is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board

Offering Envelopes

Are currently available in the vestibule.

Salt Water Taffy Recipe

2 Cups Sugar

1 Cup light corn syrup

2 Tbsp butter or margarine

¼ tsp vanilla

A few drops red food coloring – optional
Butter sides of 2 qt sauce pan. Combine in it sugar, corn syrup, 1 cup water and 1 ½ tsp salt. Cook over med – high heat stirring constantly, till sugar is dissolved. Continue cooking to “265 degrees without stirring. Mixture should boil gently over entire surface, about 40 minutes. Remove from heat, stir in butter or margarine. Add flavoring and food coloring. Poor into buttered 15x10x1 pan. Cool 20 minutes or until easy to handle. Butter hands and pull candy until difficult to pull. Cut into fourths; pull each piece into a long strand about 1/2 inch thick. Wit buttered scissors, snip taffy into bite size pieces. Wrap in clear plastic wrap. Store overnight. Makes 1 ½ lbs.

-Kim Clayton

A BIG THANK YOU goes out to Glen McClure for his expertise and to Kim Clayton for the delicious recipe. A good time was had by all.

Prayer Concerns

Troy Hammond, Delores Ward, Ruth Hensel, Dorothy (Dale) Gleckler, Bill Pancake, Dick Burdon, Madison Ringwald, Sondra Shepherd, John Kiehl, Alice Gehres, Annabelle Clevenger, Janice Taylor, Mary Evans, Fred Tumbelson, the family of Lois Bullinger, who was themother of Randy (Karen) Bullinger and aunt of Roger (Susie) Baska.

Donna Hoblet (Hearth & Home), Mary Cherry (Hearth & Home), Carrie Dawson (Convoy Care), Bryan Stewart. (Convoy Care), Irvin Schaadt (Convoy Care)

Please place additions or corrections in the green basket in the vestibule or downstairs on the typewriter.

*Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray.
Is any cheerful? Let him sing praise. Is any among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord; and the prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise him up; and if he is committed sins, he will be forgiven.*

James 5:13-15



*Convoy United Methodist Church
Sycamore and Main
Convoy, Ohio 45832
419-749-2383
Enter to Worship..., Depart to Serve*

Contemporary Service

A Contemporary Service is offered every Sunday morning at 11:11 a.m. This is held at the former Hall Lumber office downtown, located along the railroad tracks east of Main Street. It's a service filled with songs and praise. It is a casual and more relaxed Service than 9:30 service. We still offer all the same sacraments.

The Service is hosted by our praise band called "Crossroads". Members include:

Guitarist Pastor Leigh
Lead Vocal Jeff Gleckler, Keyboard Laura Leigh,
Drums Fred Fegley, Bass Guitar Matt Leigh or Jon
Leigh, Female Vocalist Rita Miller

Casual dress such as jeans, T-Shirts, and ball caps are acceptable at this service. Refreshments are offered to be enjoyed throughout the service. Not on time for the beginning, not a problem. You're welcome to come in and join us whenever you get there. It's very informal, and air conditioned. You're always welcome to come join us.

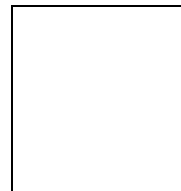
Convoy United Methodist Church
Sycamore and Main
P.O. Box 128
Convoy, Ohio 45832

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Comic Relief



Don't forget to check us out on the web at www.convoyumc.org for service streaming and more content about what's going on at Convoy United Methodist.



Mailing Address
Street Number and Name
City, State 98765-4321

