

The Communiqué

JANUARY
2010

FROM PASTOR KEN'S PEN (UH...PC!)

Several years ago, I received some of the following information that may be of help to you. As you embark upon 2010, ask yourself, "What wisdom will I gain this year that may (or may not) be of some help to others?"

WHAT I LEARNED AS A CHILD

No matter how hard you try, you can't baptize cats the Baptist way. When your mom is mad at your dad, don't let her brush your hair. If your sister hits you, don't hit her back; they always catch the second person. Never ask your brother to hold a tomato. You can't trust dogs to watch your food. Don't sneeze when someone is cutting your hair. Never hold a Dustbuster and a cat at the same time. You can't hide a piece of broccoli in a glass of milk. Don't wear polka-dot underwear under white shorts. And, the best place to be when you're sad is in Grandpa's lap!

WHAT I LEARNED AS AN ADULT

Raising teenagers is like nailing Jell-O to a tree. Wrinkles don't hurt. Families are like fudge—mostly sweet, with a few nuts. Today's mighty oak is just yesterday's nut that held its ground. Laughing is good exercise, it's like jogging on the inside. And, middle age is when you choose your cereal for the fiber, not the toy!

WHAT I'M LEARNING AS I GROW OLD

Growing old is mandatory, growing up is optional. Forget the health food, I need all the preservatives I can get. When you fall down, you wonder what else you can do while you're down there. You're getting the same sensation from a rocking chair that you once got from a roller coaster. It's frustrating when you know all the answers, but nobody asks you the questions. Time may be a great healer, but it's a lousy beautician. And, wisdom comes with age, but sometimes age comes alone!

And remember, there are four stages to life:

- 1) You believe in Santa Claus
- 2) You don't believe in Santa Claus
- 3) You are Santa Claus
- 4) You look like Santa Claus

HAPPY NEW YEAR! I'll see you in church.

Pastor Ken

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Celebrations	2
Bits from Betty	2
Presbyterian Women	2
Budget	3
Property/Maintenance	3
Christian Education	4
Membership	4
Outreach	5
Worship	5
Missions	5
Calendar	6
Fellowship	7
Music	7



GRIEFSHARE PROGRAM



Griefshare is a 13-week support group to help people grieving the death of a family member or friend. The presentations are by DVD videos and workbooks that will be provided. Pastor Ken and Pat will co-facilitate the group on Sunday afternoons (2pm) beginning February 7. Your loss need not be recent and is open to anyone who is still struggling with their loss. This group is not designed for grief brought about by other losses (e.g. loss of job, etc.) but is geared specifically for loss through death. If interested, let Ken or Pat know as soon as possible.

JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

13 Jack & Jackolyn Chase
 18 Jim & Sharyl Kidd
 20 Harold & Ina Ledbetter
 22 Tom & Sallyann Astaldi



JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

11 Eva Laishley
 14 Henry Schurman
 16 Wallace Hoffman & Carla Ward
 19 Russ Spitzer & Judy Webb
 25 Pat Folmsbee & Doris Schuring
 26 Peggy Tracy
 28 Robert Olsen



THANK YOU

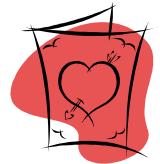
To our lay readers, ushers, greeters, communion servers and flower arranger for the month of December:

Jim Brate	Patricia King	Pat Polit
Linda Pool	Julie Fulks	Scot Fulks
Marvin Pool	Pete Newkirk	Nick Newkirk
	Joni Newkirk	



QUILLING CLASS

On Friday, January 8th, the greeting cards quilling class will resume. Any beginners are welcome. Beginner packets are \$5.00. Don't want to make cards? Other projects are available. So join us from 10:00—12:00 in Deatherage Hall. Contact Lois Weber (323-8939) to register.



BITS FROM BETTY

Please update your directory with the following correction:
Montgomery, Wanda—no, Wanda has not moved again—

If you have unlocked the door—or are the last to leave—**PLEASE MAKE SURE** to lock the door, turn off the lights and turn down the a/c in the church, Deatherage Hall, or Grace Place. The Lake County Sheriff's Dept. has warned churches that they are being targeted for theft, and recently I have found doors unlocked.

Special Note: For interested persons who have not yet received a copy of Dan Crowder's autobiography, a few are still available in the church office.

A HUGE THANK YOU to all who help me so very willingly in the office. I couldn't do my job without you. At the risk of missing to name one of you, I hope you know it's YOU that I appreciate—and count on.

My Wish for the New Year by Lillian Dorset

I wish I had a box so big that every grouch I'd pack;
 And when I'd shut the lid I'd see that none of them came back!
 I'd lock it so securely, and I'd cast away the key;
 And then I'd throw the box into the deepest, deepest sea.
 And in its place I'd get a box...the biggest I could find,
 And fill it right up to the brim with everything that's kind.
 A box...without a lock, of course...and never any key,
 For everything inside that box would then be offered free.
 Smiles—they'd be in plenty, and twinkles for the eyes;
 A face adorned with these would surely give a glad surprise,
 And grateful words for joys received, I'd freely give away.
 Thanksgiving songs to pass around and cheer the dullest day.
 The children would come running up to share the good things found;
 For joys are so infectious...and enough to go around.
 Oh, let us each begin to pack our grouches right away;
 And open wide a box of praise to brighten everyday!

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Are you saving the cancelled stamps from all your Christmas cards? Do you ever wonder how charities benefit from them? At our January 14th meeting, your curiosity will be satisfied by the Tavares Habitat for Humanity "stamp lady". Emma Ziack will tell us about Habitat's collection process and how the stamps benefit the cause.

Please join us at 10:00AM for fellowship and refreshments before our meeting. And do bring your cancelled stamps—plus can tabs, soup labels, greeting card covers, small toiletries and empty printer cartridges for our other charities.



When you take out your new 2010 calendar, please enter March 12 and 13 as our thrift sale dates. Start thinking of items that you could contribute to this annual venture.

Anne Preston
 PW President

Community Church **FINANCIAL RECAP** as of 11-30-09

Operating Account

Beginning Balance	\$25,906.63
Disbursements	-\$16,833.01
Deposits	+\$22,307.44
Ending Balance—Operating Account	\$31,381.06

	<u>November</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>Budget 2009</u>
Pledge Receipts	\$6,776.00	\$80,075.00	\$100,000.00
Non-Pledge Receipts	\$5,218.00	\$43,041.09	\$ 65,000.00

Contributions Received—Capital Campaign	\$ 87,796.37
Balance Land Purchase Mortgage	\$310,178.09

P & L Recap YTD

Year-to-Date Operating Income	\$125,162.47
Year-to-Date Operating Expenses	\$137,178.89
YTD Income (Loss)	- \$ 12,016.42

PROPERTY AND MAINTENANCE

Following the long, hot summer, the property and maintenance crew turned out for two very successful work days. The first work day on November 14 turned out to be a very nice day during which time we got a lot of trimming and weeding done. Then on December 5, there was a very hardy group who braved the rain and cold and spread 50 bags of mulch in the area in front of Deatherage Hall. Prior to that, Jim Reasor had brought his pressure washer over and cleaned the outside of the building. So, a very heartfelt THANK YOU to all the volunteers who assisted in making these chores easy ones. As a result of these efforts, I think that the entry to Deatherage Hall presented a positive first impression to our visitors who attended the pancake breakfast.



Unfortunately, the septic system in Grace Place backed up and had to be pumped to the tune of \$325. We are now doing some on-going treatments of that system in hopes that we do not

have to have a new drain field installed as that will cost us several thousand dollars. We will wait and see, and at the same time start the same treatments in the Sanctuary/Deatherage Hall systems.

Very soon, we will get a crew together to do some needed cleanup around the Bushnell house. While there are currently no plans to use that property, it is best if it is not allowed to look like it has been abandoned.

We are also making plans for a meeting with all those who signed up to help with property and maintenance so we can discuss what needs to be done and what our capabilities are. There will be more on that during January.

Our present facility is over 60 years old, and there is always work to be done. Thank you to the faithful who show up for the work days. May God bless you.

Dave Hoffmeyer, Chair
Property & Maintenance

BUILDING COMMITTEE

Now that Community Church has received rezoning approval on its 10 acre land purchase on Hwy 19 south of Howey, plans are underway for coming up with a conceptual sketch of the proposed new church facility that will occupy the property. Following Session approval and some tough competitive bidding, the building committee selected a local graphic design artist to produce a selection of concept drawings showing what the exterior of the proposed multi-purpose building might possibly look like. This will allow us to visualize the new facility on the ten acre site, without committing at this time to the detailed engineering drawings that would be bid-ready and cast in concrete. An added advantage is that it will give us time to evaluate cost options of various facades before committing to actual construction. A building committee meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 13 at 6:30 in Grace Place. Discussion is expected to center on the two latest proposed sketches with Ann Kinsey (Concept Solutions representative) in attendance to answer questions.
Les Deatherage

NEW PROGRAMS FROM CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Are you looking to make some changes in your life? Do you want to hear from God and be led by the Holy Spirit? Then “take a step” and join one (or more) of the many Christian education classes that are taking place this year!

PAIRS AND SPARES

If you walk over to Grace Place on Sunday mornings at 10:00, you will find a group of 18—20 adults enjoying fellowship, goodies and discussion. Beginning January 3rd, we will be starting a new book on religions of the world. Contact Billie Ronna (324-1223) for more information.

CHILDREN’S SUNDAY SCHOOL

We are hoping to rev up our 10:00 Sunday School program for children. We need some volunteers who are willing to teach the class. Then we will be ready when the children arrive. If interested in helping, contact Pat Polit (638-6139).

TUESDAY WOMEN’S BIBLE STUDY

If you want to learn more about the death and resurrection of Jesus, join us on January 26th as we



start a new series. This series will run for ten weeks and better prepare us for Easter. We currently have eleven ladies who meet in Deatherage Hall at 5:30 for refreshments and then begin our study from 6:00—7:30. If you would like to participate, call Betsy Folk (407-402-9180).

THURSDAY BIBLE STUDY

Pastor Ken’s 4:00 Thursday class in Deatherage Hall is growing by leaps and bounds. Over 20 people have been in attendance the past few weeks to learn about election and predestination. Are you confused by these topics? If so, don’t hesitate to choose to be part of this group.

CULTURAL ENRICHMENT SEMINAR

Elder Dan Crowder, who holds a Ph.D. in Social and Intellectual History and Political Philosophy, will host a series of Saturday seminars beginning January 9th from 10:00—11:30 in Deatherage Hall. The classes will be based on his textbook, *Ideas that Built America*, published in 1987 by Mountain State Press through the University of Charleston, WV, as the state’s “Publication of the Year”. The book received favorable

comments from leading scholars and others interested in the subject.

There is no charge for participation, and textual materials will be provided by the church. Participants will be invited to make a contribution for the capital development to go toward the building of our future church facilities. For more information, contact Dan Crowder (242-2633).

KIDZ 4 CHRIST

Beginning Wednesday, January 6th from 2:00—6:00, a new program for the neighborhood children will be launched. We are eager to teach the children about Christ and the Christian way of life through Crafts, Hymns, Recreation, Instruction, Skits, and Treats. Anyone who would like to be part of this new venture—full or part time—should contact Pat Polit (638-6139). We look forward to sharing God’s word.



Which activity will help you take that “closer walk with God”?

Pat Polit, Acting Chair

Christian Education

NEW GROUND TO COVER

The membership committee is planning to plow some new ground in terms of assimilating and orienting new members. There are many questions that arise among new members about some of the inner workings of the church as well as the behind the scenes efforts that keep us operating and on our mission. These are important questions that don’t get asked even though they cross our minds frequently.



Unfortunately, these curiosities are not just limited to NEW members, but to some veterans who may have shackled their curiosity. The new

members, specifically the class of 2009, are a perfect sized group for us to begin the process of connecting the dots. At the same time, we can reinforce the belonging feeling and friendly atmosphere that may have been a major consideration for our new members’ choice of Community Church.

To get this process underway, a “New Member Reception” for the class of 2009 is being planned for the last Sunday in January. It will give them a chance to get to know one another, as well as the deacons and elders. They will also hear about some of those functions and programs along with the roles of our leadership. They can also ask probing

questions to help them understand more about anything that may be on their minds. The Pastor will participate in the discussion and clarify, in his own special way, how the real mission of the church is supported in these processes. The new members may also “turn the light on” for us with ideas or suggestions.

More information will go out to the new members in the beginning of January. We hope it will be fun, enlightening and provide an enduring foundation for spiritual growth and a lifetime membership in Community Church.

Bill Dixon, Chair

Membership Committee

REACHING OUT WITH OUTREACH

Community Church congregation:
THANK YOU...

For YOUR help with the Howey Christmas Parade Day Pancake Breakfast

Once again, we called for your help and you responded in mass - both to the preparation day on Friday and to the pancake breakfast day on Saturday. We appreciate everyone who came out. The food and service was fit for a king; unfortunately, the weather was not. The entire Howey event drew fewer crowds than expected affecting the number of customers we had anticipated. All was

well planned and carried out. Thank you to all who helped, and thank you Don Burke for your great orchestration and organization.

For YOUR help in supporting the Christmas Angel Tree Project:

Our fourth annual Angel Tree project provided gifts to seventy (70) children of Lake County who have been removed from their homes due to abuse, abandonment or neglect, and are in the foster care system of the state. These foster children are represented by the Guardian ad Litem program which coordinated the gifting to over 600 children. Your response was over-

whelming! Marilyn and Murray McMahon thank you personally, on behalf of the Guardian ad Litem Program of Lake County.

As you can see, our Outreach committee continues to "reach out" into the community whenever the opportunity presents itself. We welcome anyone who would like to help in the brainstorming, planning, and/or execution of other activities Outreach is involved in. Mark your calendar and join us for our next meeting, January 14, at 6:30 PM. See you there!

Diane Burden,
Elder & Outreach Chair

WORSHIP COMMITTEE

December has come and gone. By the time you read this, the Advent Season has already become history. We had a grand December with our Hanging of the Greens, Advent wreath ceremonies, choir Cantata, many solo renditions and, of course, Christmas Eve. However, that too is history. Now your worship committee is poised to plan for our next season—the Lenten season.

First things first. We have a new member, Dorothy Hill, on our worship committee, and we still have room for more. Our first meeting of

the new year will be Tuesday, January 5th at 6:30PM in Grace Place. We will be planning communions for the first Sunday of each month. February brings us Ash Wednesday on February 17th with our service in the sanctuary at 7:00PM. We then move ahead to Palm Sunday on March 28th (this is one of those early seasons). Maundy Thursday follows on April 1st with the service in the sanctuary at 7:00PM. Good Friday is still in the planning stages, and we will give



you more on that later. Easter Sunday sunrise service will be held again at the lake at 6:30AM (approximate time) with a breakfast to follow, and then both worship services at 9:00 and 11:00. There is still some further planning for each of these events in the life of our church, and they will be addressed at upcoming meetings.

We are definitely on the move here at Community Church.

Bill Foster, Chair
Worship Committee

MISSIONS AND BENEVOLENCE

We have just completed another food pantry delivery/pick-up day. This time we put together 25 boxes and had two people show up who were not on the list. We were able to give them food, also. Since then, we have added another two families, although a couple of folks to whom we were giving food, have either gotten jobs or have begun getting food stamps. The missions committee thanks the people of "The Springs" for the very generous donation of canned goods last month. Along with the donations from folks



in our church, the food recipients got A LOT of food this month. We also received a very generous check from Howey Garden Club.

The food pantry bought four fold-up 6 foot tables that helped so much in getting things organized (although, if you ever dropped in while we were doing this project, you wouldn't think there was any "organization" to it). Our biggest problem, and especially now that we have so many families to feed, was a place to put out the boxes so that we could fill them. The new tables are truly the answer to this problem. Thanks to Rosie and Dave for purchasing them for us and hauling them to Grace Place.

Our two newly-trained "missionaries" (Melanie Tucker and Jean Wittmaier) have completed their Rafiki training at the headquarters in Eustis and are ready to make plans to go to Africa some time next year. The last issue of "Lake Style" magazine has a wonderful cover article about the Rafiki organization and some great pictures of the facility in Eustis. If you get a chance to see one, it is well worth your while to read the article.

Thanks once again for your generosity to this ministry.

Pam Miles, Chair
Missions and Benevolence

JANUARY 2010

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3 Communion Sunday Session 6:00	4	5 Men's Breakfast 8:00 Worship 6:30 GP Christian Educ 7:30 GP	6 Kidz 4 Christ 2:00—6:00 DH Choir 6:30	7 Finance 2:00 GP Bible Study 4:00 DH AA 7:00 DH	8 Art Class 9:30 DH Quilling Class 10:00– 12:00 DH	9 Dan Crowder's seminar 10:00—11:30 DH
10 Fellowship Luncheon	11	12 Men's Breakfast 8:00 Membership 10:00 GP	13 Food Pantry 9:30 GP Kidz 4 Christ 2:00—6:00 DH Building Committee 6:30 GP Choir 6:30	14 PW 10—12:00 DH Bible Study 4:00 DH Outreach Mtg 6:30 GP AA 7:00 DH	15 Art Class 9:30 DH Quilling Class 10:00– 12:00 DH	16 Dan Crowder's seminar 10:00—11:30 DH
17	18	19 Men's Breakfast 8:00	20 Kidz 4 Christ 2:00—6:00 DH Choir 6:30	21 Bible Study 4:00 DH Deacon Mtg 6:30 GP AA 7:00 DH	22 Newsletter deadline 9:00 Art Class 9:30 DH Quilling Class 10:00– 12:00 DH	23 Dan Crowder's seminar 10:00—11:30 DH
24 31 New Member Reception 12:00	25	26 Men's Breakfast 8:00 Women's Bible Study 6:00—7:30 DH	27 Kidz 4 Christ 2:00—6:00 DH Choir 6:30	28 Bible Study 4:00 DH AA 7:00 DH	29 Art Class 9:30 DH Quilling Class 10:00– 12:00 DH	30 Dan Crowder's seminar 10:00—11:30 DH



OFFICE HOURS

Monday—Thursday 8:30—1:30



FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Well, I barely remembered to write 2009 on my checks and here is 2010!! The very first thing we should ALL do each morning is something Glenn Bowron taught me: thank Him for your new day before you even get out of bed. No matter how hard or busy the day is going to be—you are alive to serve Him one more day.

We had so much to be thankful for last year that I can't even begin to write it all down. If you search your heart and think back on the last 12 months, you will realize how much God has blessed—not just you personally—but also this church. May He continue doing that in 2010 and all the years to follow that He deems to give us.

Finally getting to the food department, the last two fellowships of the year are always my favorites—all the turkey and ham one can eat. The December fellowship had an added bonus. Whether you thought they were angels or elves, we were blessed in music from Norine Spitzer, Pat Folmsbee and Sue Bartlett. Since Norine has been our choir director, we seem to have more music in our

lives and that is a good thing. I can remember when the earlier service barely had enough people in it so we had a hard time singing out of our hymnals. Fast forward five years, and we now have a LOT of people at the early service, we sing from words on a screen, and there is music provided by some very dedicated choir members and/or people who just love to sing and want to share their gift with the rest of us. Yes, this church is truly blessed.

I'm hoping January 10th will be a little chilly because it's time we had a soup fellowship luncheon. Marilyn McMahon, I am shamelessly going to solicit your black bean soup—yum yum.



I'll leave you with a poem I found online so you can read it as often in the New Year as you need to. Wishing you a blessed, healthy and prosperous New Year.

Rosie Hawthorne
Fellowship Elder

You're Always There for Me

When the world comes crashing in
And chaos rules my mind,
I turn my heart to you, Lord,
And pure, sweet peace I find.
You lift me out of trouble
You comfort me in pain;
You nourish, heal and cleanse me,
Like cool, refreshing rain.
In times of joy and bliss,
When things are going right,
You lift me even higher,
And fill me with delight.
You listen to my prayers;
You hear my every plea;
I'm safe because I know
You're always there with me.

By Joanna Fuchs

NOTES FROM NORINE

Season's Greetings,

I hope each of you had a joyous Christmas, and that you didn't eat too much over the holidays. We started our Christmas season with our annual trip to Pigeon Forge, Tennessee, to attend "Christmas in the Smokies". As always, it was an awesome, fun filled and spirit-filled trip taken with ten other church members. We had wonderful fellowship together and enjoyed all the concerts and chapel services. There is something for everyone to enjoy—music, comedy, drama and the "Not So Newlywed" game. Congratulations Tom and Sallyann Astaldi for being this year's winners!

I always return feeling so renewed

in my spiritual journey. I guess you could say that I'm "on fire" for the Lord, and what a wonderful feeling it is. I will start announcing information about next year's trip in the spring. Won't you consider joining us in 2010?

Russell sends a great big THANK YOU for all of your calls, visits and prayers. He decided it was best to go to rehab, so he'll probably still be there when you get this newsletter. He needs to get better quickly so he can get a new left knee on January 20th. A new year and two new knees—how great is that!

The choir hopes that you enjoyed the Christmas Cantata. As always, they worked very hard to prepare it

for you. Please let them know you appreciate them. For the size of this church, we are so blessed by a choir of this caliber - no professionals, just volunteers who love to sing. I've heard choirs from churches twice the size of ours, and there is no comparison to our choir. I love each member of our choir and so appreciate their dedication to this church and to the Lord. Remember, it is for Him that we sing. Praise God for the gift of song!



Happy New Year!
Norine