



# The View From Presbyterian Hill

*We View Life Through the Cross*

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Volume VIII Issue 1



**First  
Presbyterian  
Church**  
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## Christmas Dinner Theater

The children and youth presented Bethlehem Inn. Below are scenes from the performance.



Gail, Becky, Mary Ann & Bernice play the dulcimers at Bethlehem Inn.



Above: Lauren & Megan White (Sally's great-grand daughters) visit with Santa during his surprise appearance after the Christmas play.



The Bethlehem Inn's kitchen crew.

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## Pastor's Corner



Cool, rainy days like the one we are experiencing today are good for reminiscing. As I think back over Advent Season 2010, there are a multitude of reasons for thanksgiving. Once again your choir has led you in outstanding music throughout the Christmas Season. Their Cantata, on Sunday, December 19<sup>th</sup>, was superb! As was the combined efforts of the choir and the Yonah Brass on Sunday, December 12<sup>th</sup>. What a joy it is to be pastor of a church that takes music seriously. A word of gratitude to David Arvold, Tee Smith, and every member of the choir! In truth, we are truly blessed with an outstanding Ministry of Music here at First Presbyterian Church. However, because of the tireless efforts of all those involved in our music ministry and because of the rich heritage of music you have known for many years, it is quite easy to be tempted to take for granted the excellence they provide each Sunday. I sincerely hope that is not the case. With that in mind, let me encourage you to speak to David, Tee, and the members of the choir, and let them know how very much you appreciate their efforts.

The youth's presentation of The Bethlehem Inn, on Wednesday evening, December 15<sup>th</sup>, was outstanding from start to finish. Directed by Sandra Vetrano, Kaye Bryan, and Paula Callaway, it proved to be both delicious and delightful! Many thanks to all who had a part in its planning, and execution: a total of some thirty youth were involved! Many thanks to : Nick Mitchell, Hannah Wall, Ryan Buote, Melina Kramer, Brandon Buote, Liam Gedney, Megan Oliver, Nicky Vetrano, MacKenzie Buote, Chandler Maddox, Charlsie Maddox, Anna Bogart, Colton Maddox, Alex Smith, Frank Vetrano, Alyssa Kramer, Ariana Kramer, Katie White, Lauren White, Kyrsten Buote, Chloe Maddox, Farrah Vetrano, Brandon Manning, Sarah Caporale, Joel DeMeritt, Chloe Gedney, Kristen Mitchell, Mia Vetrano, and Savannah Vetrano.

Many thanks also to: Bob Thomason, Kristen Arvold, Melody Thomason, Becky Clark, Mary Ann Clyburn, Gail Rollin, Bernice Rogers, Joanne Kramer, Jim Crawford, Stephanie Bogart, Genie Bogart, Kevin Buote, Melanie Floyd, Tamala Smith, Christie Wall, Judy Winski, Ron Winski, Frank Vetrano, Ben and Beth Everling, Donny and Kaye Parker, Gypsy Smith, and Eric Wall. ( I hope I've not left any one out)

As this is being written, we are looking forward to our Annual Christmas Eve Candle Lighting Service. Wasn't the sanctuary, indeed, the buildings as a whole, beautiful! We are indebted to all who had a part in decorating it so splendidly. To all of who gave poinsettias for our magnificent poinsettia tree, your church is truly grateful. Gratitude is also expressed to those who led us in the Lighting of the Advent Wreath. To the Buotes, the Sturms, the Bryans, the Vetranos, and the Bogarts, our most sincere thanks.

The beginning of a new year, somewhat like the Celebration of the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper, provides excellent occasion for one to look both backward and forward. Traditionally, it has been a time for resolutions. Are there some resolutions you need to make? How about a new, closer relationship with Almighty God through His Son, our Lord Jesus Christ? What about your relationship with First Presbyterian Church? There's no better time than at the beginning of a new year to reestablish old ties and commitments. If you haven't been as faithful in your commitment to the Lord Jesus Christ through First Presbyterian Church as you know you should have been, now is the time to strengthen those commitments. If you've been lax in your attendance, there is no better time than right now to start anew. Come on back. We need you!

As I reminisce about the events of the year now past, and anticipate the possibilities for the year that is before us, I give thanks to Almighty God for His guidance, His mercy, and His blessings. I continue to be thankful, also to each of you for the many and varied expressions of love, kindness, concern and support you have given to Paula and me and our family. Paula joins me in saying, "We love you!" We are grateful for the opportunity to be a part of such a fine and loving church. We look forward to sharing this new year with each of you and getting to know you better as together we seek to be the people of God in this time and in this place. May God bless you!

I look forward to seeing you in church.

Grace and peace,

Roe M. Callaway, Jr.



## New Members Gary and Jan Hopkins

We are pleased to introduce you to Gary and Jan who became "official" members of First Presbyterian after several months of faithful attendance and participation in church activities. They are native Georgians, both grew up in Dekalb County and in fact, did their hardware shopping at a store owned by Pastor Roe's cousin in Decatur. They blended their families (Gary's daughter and Jan's son and daughter) after meeting through a dating service over 20 years ago. When Jan saw Gary's dream of living in the north Georgia mountains, she knew he was the one for her. They fulfilled that dream eight years ago when Gary's business partner and he located their company, Plastek Werks, in the White County Industrial Park. Jan worked for the company as well and they found their piece of "heaven" just over the Lumpkin County line toward Turner's Corner. Jan's daughter has made them grandparents twice over and they enjoy the fact that all the kids are nearby in the Jefferson and Atlanta area. In their free time they enjoy the mountains through hiking and kayaking and through bluegrass music.

They have never been members of a church before but felt the call to unite with a church family. They began visiting churches in the area and felt the presence of the Spirit on their first visit to First Presbyterian and the search was over. Gary had been baptized in a Presbyterian church and Jan as a Baptist since her grandfather was a Baptist preacher. We welcome them to our church family.



## New Members Louis & Sandra Harper

Natives of the Shreveport, Louisiana area, Louis and Sandra now live in Dahlonega and felt the warmth of First Presbyterian in Cleveland on their first visit. Sandra described the feeling "like coming home". They both grew up in the Baptist Church and knew one another in junior high school but didn't come together as a family until about 10 years ago. They each have two children that have blessed them with 4 granddaughters and a grandson. Louis lived in New Mexico, southern California and New Hampshire during his career as an Air Traffic Controller and moved to Georgia on the recommendation of his brother. He began his second career as a culinary student and then as a chef and works part-time in the Lumpkin Co. school system in nutrition as well as having his own barbeque catering business. Sandra helps in the business and is quite a baker. She had her own career in office management and bookkeeping and keeps busy with gardening and drawing with colored pencils. They both look forward to getting involved in the life of the church even though their own lives are keeping them quite busy. We are pleased to welcome the Harpers into the fellowship of First Presbyterian.

# Women's Bible Study

The **Morning Women's Bible Study** will meet Thursday, January 13th at the church. We will gather at 10:00 AM for our study, which will be from our new book "Journey Through Revelation Apocalyptic Hope for Today". Betty Smith will lead lesson one, "An Apocalypse, an Author, and a Witness". Then we will share our joys and concerns. We will have lunch next, so bring something to eat if you wish. Dessert will be provided by Becky Clark, our hostess for this month.

The WBS is open to any woman over the age of 18, whether or not she is a First Presbyterian Church member. Join us in our study, fellowship and missions.



The Women's Bible Study ladies enjoyed a wonderful Christmas Lunch at Brasstown Resort. The fellowship was wonderful and the food delicious. Above are some photos from the event.



**JANUARY MEETING:** We meet Thursday January 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM. A light supper will be served by hostesses Becky Clark and Betty Royds and the 3<sup>rd</sup> lesson from Revelation will be led by Luanne Wedd.

**SOMETHING NEW!!** Beginning in January, PW will prepare a meal for the Men of the Church at their first meeting of the quarter. (That will be January, April, July, and October). Something special will be prepared and the cost will be very reasonable. So, Men – come to your meeting with a hearty appetite and we'll feed you!

**PW Local Missions:** In addition to supporting missions at the national and presbytery level, Presbyterian Women (PW) are noted for the work they do at the local level and within their churches.

The FPC-PW have chosen several local needs for their missions. We ask for your prays and support with these projects which include collecting soda can tabs, Campbell soup labels, Boxtops for Education and used cell phones. Watch for the collection bins that will be placed in the upper Narthex. CASA and Circle of Hope will be supported with us donating needed supplies such as paper products and personal care items at each meeting. Hutcheson Hall and the kitchen will be our project within the church.

<b>FINANCIAL REPORT</b> (through November 2010)	
Year-to-date Budget Requirement	\$220,767.25
Year-to date Budget Received	\$214,724.53
Year-to-date Budget Shortage	\$ 6,042.72

<b>LOGOS Themes for January</b>	
Jan. 5	Don't Slide Backwards
Jan. 12	Let it Snow
Jan. 19	Feed a Friend
Jan. 26	CSI—Mystery

# First Presbyterian Church—Cleveland January 2011



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>2 Happy Birthday!</b> <b>Tina Mitchell</b> 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Worship 3:30pm NA	Office Closed 6:30pm Officer Training 6:00am Girl Scouts	<b>4 Happy Birthday!</b> <b>Sandi Nellis</b> 12:00pm Rotary 6:00pm Men of the Church dinner by PW 7:00pm NA & Nar-Anon	<b>5</b> 4:00pm LOGOS 5:45pm Dinner 6:20pm Bible Study 7:30pm Choir Practice	<b>6</b> 6:30pm PW Meeting	<b>7</b> <b>Happy Birthday!</b> <b>Betty Cochran</b> 7:00pm NA	<b>1</b> No Sat. Service
<b>9 Happy Birthday!</b> <b>Joy Robbins</b> <b>Steve Smith</b> 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Worship 12:00pm Session Meeting 3:30pm NA	Office Closed 6:30pm Officer Training 6:00am Girl Scouts	<b>11</b> 12:00pm Rotary 6:30pm Stephen Ministry 7:00pm NA & Nar-Anon	<b>12 Happy Birthday!</b> <b>Sammie Floyd</b> 4:00pm LOGOS 5:45pm Dinner 6:20pm Bible Study 7:30pm Choir Practice	<b>13</b> <b>Happy Birthday!</b> <b>DeWayne Nix</b> 10:00 am Women's Morning Bible Study	<b>14</b> <b>Happy Birthday!</b> <b>Deborah VanderWerf</b> 7:00pm NA	<b>15</b> <b>Happy Birthday!</b> <b>Katherine Wessely</b> 5:30pm Saturday Evening Worship
<b>16</b> <b>Happy Birthday!</b> <b>Jack Sturm</b> 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Worship 3:30pm NA	Office Closed 6:30pm Officer Training 6:00am Girl Scouts	<b>18</b> <b>Happy Birthday!</b> <b>Fred Haas</b> <b>Bill VanderWerf</b> 12:00pm Rotary 7:00pm NA & Nar-Anon	<b>19</b> 4:00pm LOGOS 5:45pm Dinner 6:20pm Bible Study 7:30pm Choir Practice	<b>20</b> <b>Happy Birthday!</b> <b>Jennifer Marcus</b>	<b>21</b> <b>Happy Birthday!</b> <b>Luanne Wedd</b> 7:00pm NA	<b>22</b> 5:30pm Saturday Evening Worship
<b>23 Happy Birthday!</b> <b>David DeMeritt</b> 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Worship 3:30pm NA	Office Closed 6:30pm Officer Training 6:00am Girl Scouts	<b>25</b> 12:00pm Rotary 6:30pm Stephen Ministry 7:00pm NA & Nar-Anon	<b>26 Happy Birthday!</b> <b>Samantha Wessely</b> 4:00pm LOGOS 5:45pm Dinner 6:20pm Bible Study 7:30pm Choir Practice	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 5:30pm Saturday Evening Worship
<b>30 Happy Birthday!</b> <b>David Hursey</b> 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Worship 3:30pm NA	<b>31 Happy Birthday!</b> <b>Hans Mannaert</b> Office Closed 6:30pm Officer Training 6:00am Girl Scouts					(12/21/10)

# MISSIONS TEAM NEWS

Paul Scott Abbott, Missions Elder  
[missions@fpcleveland.org](mailto:missions@fpcleveland.org)

## FPC FILLS SCORES OF SHOEBOXES TO WARM HEARTS OF CHILDREN



First Presbyterian Church of Cleveland has generously participated again in the Operation Christmas Child program. Karen Abbott, member of the Mission Team, with some of the more than 70 gift-filled shoeboxes for children who might otherwise not experience the joy of Christmas.

Boxes filled with toys, school supplies, hygiene items, T-shirts, ball caps and similar items were recently collected at the church and forwarded to the Samaritan's Purse ministry for distribution to deserving children throughout the world.

Thanks to all who took part in this effort to warm the hearts of children in need.

More about the program may be found online at [www.samaritanspurse.org](http://www.samaritanspurse.org).

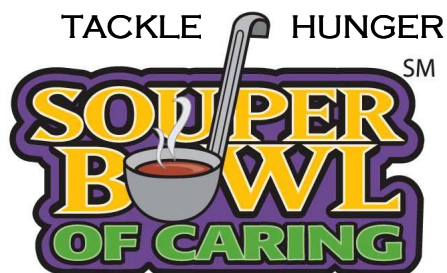
## CHANGE4CHILDREN BUCKET OVERFLOWS WITH GENEROSITY

The Change4Children/Noise for Joy bucket at FPC has collected a total of more than \$500 in 2010 to support foreign missions programs of the Alliance for Children Everywhere.

Led by DeWayne Nix of the FPC Missions Team, the effort turns spare coins into a big boost for such ACE initiatives as operation of three rescue homes in Zambia for abandoned infants, orphans and other young children in challenging circumstances.

FPC's participation is planned to continue in 2011, with collections on the second Sunday of each even-numbered month. That means the next collection is set for Feb. 13.

ACE, a not-for-profit Christian organization established in 1969, also provides assistance to extended families, advocates for adoption, furnishes infant formula to babies at risk of abandonment or starvation and offers free Christian education to children who are unable to attend school due to family poverty. To find out more, go to ACE's Web site at [www.childreverywhere.org](http://www.childreverywhere.org).



## SOUPER BOWL OF CARING SET FOR SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2011

On Sunday, February 6, First Presbyterian Church of Cleveland will once again be participating in the Souper Bowl of Caring, with food and money collected going to the White County Food Pantry.

Some members of FPC have already begun bringing cans and boxes of nonperishable food items to the church in anticipation of the big day. On February 6 –

Super Bowl Sunday – we will be accepting final donations of food (and cash, as well as checks to FPC marked "Souper Bowl" in the memo line).

Since beginning with a single prayer in 1990, Souper Bowl of Caring has, throughout the world, raised more than \$70 million for charities that help neighbors in need.

Thanks in part to a youth-led effort on a snowy Saturday, FPC raised nearly \$450 in cash for the initiative in 2010, in addition to some 350 pounds of food.

Additional information about the Souper Bowl of Caring may be found online at [www.souperbowl.org](http://www.souperbowl.org).



### NEWLY REELECTED ELDER – SANDRA MONTGOMERY

Sandra has been elected to the session after a couple of years as an inactive elder. She has served this church on the session in the past as chair of the Fellowship Team. She was born in Athens but grew up in Clermont before beginning her education and career in accounting and real estate. Sandra moved full time to White County in 2001 and spent several years with Alco Realty. She joined First Presbyterian in 2004 and has been ordained as a Stephen Minister. She is currently working for a CPA in the Birmingham area whom she had worked for many years ago when she lived in that area. He asked her to return to help him solve a couple of difficult problems and now, two years later, she is a troubleshooter in his office. She spends two or three days a week, three weeks out of the month in the office. Sandra says it will still leave her time to perform her ministry as an Elder. Sandra has three children and many grandchildren with a great grand child expected any day. After living in several cities in the south necessitated by her husband's career, she now enjoys travel to far off places, having toured in China, Australia, New Zealand, England, Scotland and France. She has also been a licensed pilot but most of all, she enjoys her grandchildren. Sandra says she is honored and delighted to be able to serve again as an active Elder. She says she loves being a part of the FPC family and that there is nothing to compare to "Viewing Life Through the Cross". If you know Sandra, you know it shows in her life. We are glad to have her back on the session.



### NEW DEACON – KAYE PARKER

Kaye and husband Donnie have been members of First Presbyterian for over two years. She has been active in the life of the church and says she is honored to have been asked to serve as a Deacon. She and Donnie merged their families in 2007 blending five children and six grandchildren. Kaye's two daughters live in Georgia and have blessed her with 5 grandchildren. She helped Donnie in the establishment of the Caring Hands Free Clinic on the square in Cleveland and even did some painting and decorating. She enjoys gardening and working on the "Kitchen Crew" at church. She says she looks forward to working with the members of her "flock". We welcome the service of one of our newer members as an officer of First Presbyterian Church.



FPC youth and adults caroling at nursing home.



Christie, Jodie, Sandra & Stephanie pose with Santa.



Thanks again to Joyce Naivar for sponsoring a wreath in the Festival of Trees at Unicoi State Park to raise money for The United Way. The wreath was beautifully decorated in purple and silver by Joyce and Barbara Chambers and was displayed in the Lodge under the banner of FPC."



**OLD MEMORIES OF YOUNG MEN**

**-a visit to Southern Railway Museum-**

On Thursday, November 18, fourteen men visited the Southern Railway Museum in Duluth.

Like a repeating rifle you kept hearing "when I was a boy, I remember (insert story about trains)". A lot of old memories were reborn. Good for the soul. Good for the spirits. Keeps you young, but makes you realize you are getting older. What good camaraderie this group has.

This is a trip that is well worth it to anyone that has an interest in old trains. Thanks to Dave Royds and Tony Clark for planning this event. South Carolina Rail yards next maybe?



**MEN OF THE CHURCH**  
*"men serving and worshipping God"*

Seventeen men enjoyed the food and companionship at our December meeting. We met at the Sunflower Restaurant.

The Valentine Dinner is fast approaching so most talk was around that. We will again have the SILENT AUCTION and we are asking people to donate to this part of our event for the evening. The MENS BAKE-OFF will again be held. All men should enter their favorite dessert or bread item in this event. Goodies will be judged and then auctioned off to the highest bidder. Robby Robbins has agreed to act as the COURT JESTER.

We will also be taking pictures of each couple as they come in for a minimal fee.

Just remember all profit goes to youth programs with a limited amount going to other church related projects.

We invite and encourage ALL MEN AND OLDER MALES to attend and take part in our meetings and events. Our next meeting is on Tuesday January 4, 2011.

*Be My Valentine*

**3<sup>rd</sup> ANNUAL**

**VALENTINE DINNER**

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2011**  
**AT 6:00PM**

AN ADULT EVENT PRESENTED

BY MEN OF THE CHURCH

Tickets on Sale first of January

- BAKE OFF
- PICTURE BOOTH
- DOOR PRIZES
- SILENT ACTION RETURNS
- COURT JESTER
- NURSERY WILL BE PROVIDED

All profits go toward youth scholarships and other specific projects around the church.

## 'Tis the Season of Lots of Visitors

by Valerie Richardson

I have recently been elected to serve as an Elder and my ministry area will be Membership. A discussion that our Administration Team had recently regarding ways we could help our office manager, Linda Watkins, with her ever increasing workload brought about a discussion of some of the duties she performed. The result of that conversation led to my volunteering to share a concern which moved into an Outreach and Membership ministry area which I will share with all of you in this article.

If you polled our members you would surely find that many joined our Christian Family here on Presbyterian Hill because we welcomed them with open arms and they loved the Christian spirit and the love of God and Christ they found here. With the Thanksgiving and Christmas season we have experienced a large number of visitors to FPC. Our former pastor often expressed to us, "This is a good thing!" However, recently I spent time substituting for our office manager and I noticed something that "Is not a good thing." I noticed many visitors in church on Sunday, but on the attendance records I found only three names to enter into an attendance report that Linda does every Tuesday. Our Outreach Elder, Clair Arvold, is working hard to make sure that all visitors receive a card from our congregation. As we grow our membership there are so many more ways we could be serving the Lord in our community. And, we would all benefit from the talents our new members would share. We certainly do not want our visitors to "fall through the cracks."

Would you be willing to help us out by doing three simple things? 1) Seek out and speak with new faces. Introduce yourselves by saying "I don't believe we have met, my name is ....." If when they give you their name they don't mention being a visitor, ask them if they are visiting with us today. Be sure to mention to them that we'd like them to fill our attendance folders found on each pew. It's ok to find out that they are a member, it makes for a good chance to tell them that you are so sorry that you have missed the opportunity to welcome them to FPC and it can be the beginnings of a new found friendship. 2) Make sure that everyone sitting in your pew (members and visitors) sign the attendance record notebook. Encourage all present to fill out the attendance notebook during the pass the peace portion of the service. 3) Help our official greeters on Sunday mornings by making sure you move on through the lower narthex so they can find and greet all the visitors. If we as members and regular attendees take our hugs and conversations to the upper Narthex or into the sanctuary, our greeters and ushers won't miss visitors that move on through the crowd without being officially welcomed.

I look forward to working with all of you to grow the membership of our congregation.



### What does a Stephen Minister do?

1. They give one to one lay Christian care.
2. They meet privately with one care receiver of the same gender.
3. They are trained and supervised and are not professional therapists.
4. They care by listening, encouraging, praying and are trustworthy and maintain confidentiality.
5. Here is a partial list of times when someone could use a Stephen Ministry.

Hospitalization  
 Death of a loved one  
 Retirement  
 Separation or divorce  
 Job loss  
 Disability  
 Terminal illness  
 Childbirth/Adoption  
 Empty Nest  
 Spiritual Crises

If you or someone you know could use our care, call:  
 Tom Harbst at \_\_\_\_\_ or Dr. Roe Callaway at  
 706-865-6499.

## FIFTH SUNDAY LUNCH

**JANUARY 30, 2011**

Immediately after Worship

### Soup & Sandwich

Our youth and their families will provide soup and sandwiches for our fifth Sunday lunch. Donations will be accepted to help offset youth activities.

## FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER DEADLINE JANUARY 19

### Chairperson & Editor

**Bruce Morgan**

### Committee Members

**Clair Arvold Linda Watkins Judy Winski**

**David Hursey Betty Smith**

### Photographer

**John Rogers**

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## STEPHEN MINISTRY



### Meeting Dates

January 11 & 25

### Minister of the Week

Jan. 2 Treisa Caporale  
Jan. 9 Sara Davis  
Jan. 16 Barbara Hiers  
Jan. 23 Sandra Montgomery  
Jan. 30 Bernice Rogers

### SERMON TITLES AND TEXT FOR JANUARY

January 2  
"OUR BEST YEAR Yet?"  
Isaiah 60:1-6

January 9  
"Proudly Humble"  
I Corinthians 1:26-31  
Matthew 5:1-12

January 16  
"Cooperation"  
Nehemiah 2:1-8

January 23  
"Unity"  
I Corinthians 1:10-18

January 30  
"God Spoke"  
Genesis 1:1-5  
Mark 1:4-11

**CHILI COOK-OFF HAS BEEN CANCELLED FOR  
THIS MONTH. NEW DATE TO BE ANNOUNCED.**

**THE VIEW from Presbyterian Hill**

## WEDNESDAY'S

### Dinner Menus

Jan. 5 Hotdogs  
Jan. 12 Chicken Soup  
Jan. 19 Meatball Subs  
Jan. 26 Mystery Meat

Desserts are needed for the  
Wednesday Night Meal

