

November
2008

From Your Pastor

“These are the words that Moses spoke to all Israel ...” (Deuteronomy 1:1)

The names of the books in the Hebrew Bible come from the first words of the text. The book named Deuteronomy in your Bible is named *(words)* in Hebrew, after the first words of the text. Deuteronomy contains the words of Moses to Israel as they prepare to enter the Promised Land. These are words from God to prepare Israel for life as a covenant people in the land.

Deuteronomy 1:1 was on my mind as the session concluded the October meeting. I invited the elders to share a word or phrase that described how they were feeling about our church at that moment. These are the words:

thankful, evolving, awakening, newly energized, expectant, reflective, transformational, on the move, exciting, collegial

What are the words that describe the way you feel about our church at this moment in time? I invite you to share the words with me. You may hand your word or phrase to me on a slip of paper, e-mail me at joemhinds3@aol.com, or leave me a message on voice mail or in my mail box at church.

My words for this moment are vision, faith, and hope. We began the October session meeting with words from Proverbs, “Where there is no vision, the people perish.” (29:18 KJV). I am eager to continue the process of the vision for ministry for this church, in this community, on this corner, at this moment in time. The Apostle Paul wrote to the church at Thessalonica of his thanksgiving for their “work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.” (1 Thessalonians 1:3) I feel that same spirit of thanksgiving for the opportunity to serve this congregation as your pastor, and for the work of faith and labor of love that has brought you to this day.

Now, I pray for God’s continued presence and guidance as we seek to be faithful to the call to fulfill the ministry of Jesus Christ as we devote ourselves as the early church did in Acts 2:42, to the apostle’s teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

Glory be,
Pastor Joe ⊕

FIRST PRESS

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Worship Schedule

9:30 am	Christian Education
10:30 am	Worship*
11:30 am	Fellowship (1st Sun. of the month)
4:00 pm	Culto en Español Domingos

* *First Sunday of every month there is a bi-lingual service*



SARAH'S CORNER



As many of you know, the Steenrod family has been quite busy lately with soccer games. Blake has been in several tournaments lately, and Katie's high school team is still (as of this writing) going strong in Dayton area tournaments. I'm usually a fairly quiet fan (really, I am. Hard to believe?), but I do make the occasional noise from the stands. Yesterday, I took Blake to one of his league games, and I took the opportunity to "be still" and just listen to my surroundings as I watched the boys play. As one would expect, there were the parents who were criticizing the referees and their calls, there were those who were cheering on their own child in "not so positive" ways, and there were those who were just cheering for anyone and encouraging them in their play, no matter what color jersey they wore. It made me wonder what if God looks at us and our actions to determine what kind of fan each of us is in "His" game. Am I the kind of fan who criticizes God when things don't go my way? Am I the kind of fan who discourages others because I don't cheer them on in the most positive way I can? Or do I encourage everyone I meet with encouraging comments and pats on the back? When I DO make noise from His stands, is it loud enough for anyone to even hear? Or do I just quietly sit and watch the game as a spectator who decides not to share the results with others? I would hope that God sees me as a fan that will go to the top of the bleachers and



VOLUNTEER OPORTUNITIES

1. Beth Bailey and the Rejoice Ringers are hosting a Handbell Seminar on Sunday, November 2nd. Local bell choirs will gather at 2:30 PM for instruction from an area hand bell expert. Following the seminar, there will be a concert open to the public at 6:00. Beth would like volunteers to help with a "lite" meal for the ringers before the concert, as well as refreshments after the concert. Please see Sarah if you are able to help.
2. Cookies are needed for after-race nourishment for people participating in the Turkey Trot. Please see Sarah if you are able to provide 1 or 2 dozen cookies.
4. Ushers will be needed for the Holiday Concert on December 6th. This will be extremely important, since we expect many to attend that won't know their way around the church.
5. Love to wrap presents? We may need people to wrap shoe boxes before we send them out. The church will supply the paper and tape. You supply the manpower. See Sarah if you can help out! Thanks to Sally Stilwell and Jane Bailey for helping out last year. This will need to be done the week of November 9th, so that boxes are ready for shipping on November 17th.

LIGHTS! CAMERA!

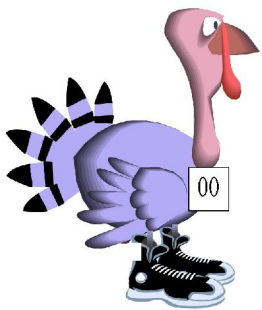


Sarah is looking for actors and actresses to help with several things during the Advent season.

Nothing has to be

memorized, but you do need to enjoy being in front of others. The Worship Committee has several things in the hopper to add special touches to the season, but we need your help! If you enjoy this kind of thing, please let Sarah or Dana know soon!

TURKEY TROT



Wanted: Turkey Trot volunteers! The following assignments are open: baking cookies to pass out to participants afterwards, passing out snacks afterwards,

helping folks register the day of the event, helping Sarah line the route the day before (Wednesday, November 26th), sitting at the turn-around spot to make sure no one gets lost in Tawawa Park, delivering food to the Alpha Center after the event, putting up flyers around town, etc, etc, etc. As you can see, there is something for EVERY-ONE!! We've already passed out over 200 registration forms, so we hope to see that many participants for the event. And just a reminder: you don't have to be a marathon runner to participate yourself! Walk leisurely with your dog (or your baby in a stroller...), run, walk, run, walk (my favorite technique), or run the whole thing! Any exercise you get that morning will assure you a guilt-free day of eating! And don't forget-Joe might just be there in a turkey costume cheering you on!

From the Office...

- All information for the Bulletin needs to be into the office no later that Thursday morning. If anything comes in after that, it will be saved for the next week. Also all newsletter information will need to be turned into Anne by the third Monday of each month. This will help in getting the newsletter out before the first of the month. Anne will send out monthly reminders to everyone to remind people of the deadline.

HOLIDAY CONCERT



Please put December 6, 2008 on your holiday calendar now! Our church will be hosting Sidney's only Holiday Concert at 7:00 PM in the sanctuary. The concert will feature the "Swing Era Band" with Randy Herron, as well as the Simple Harmony vocal group and several other musical groups. You won't want to miss this opportunity to hear some wonderful Christmas music to "kick off" the holiday season! Be sure to talk this one up. It's guaranteed to be a night to remember.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD



Please remember to pick up your boxes (if you haven't already) for Operation Christmas Child to fill with goodies. If you would rather someone else do the shopping, please see Sarah to make arrangements. All boxes are due back to the church by November 9th so that we can make sure they are gift wrapped and ready to go! Thank you for your continued support of this project.

**DON'T FORGET TO
VOTE
NOV. 4TH**

November 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 11 am: Hispanic Comm. Meeting
2 10:30 am: Bi-lingual Worship Service 11:30 am: Coffee Hour 2:30 pm: Bell Seminar	3 7 pm: Heritage Comm.	4 3:15 pm: Central Zone 8:30 pm: AA & Al-Anon	5 5:30 pm: Staff Meeting 6:30 pm: Bell Choir 7:30 pm: Choir Pract.	6 7	8	
9 9:30 am: Christian Ed. 10:30 am: Worship 4 pm: Hispanic Worship	10 10-3: Senior Screening	11 5 pm: Alpha Dinner 7 pm: Deacon Dinner 8:30 pm: AA & Al-Anon <u>Anne out of office</u>	12 6:30 pm: Bell Choir 7:30 pm: Choir Pract.	13 14 6:30 pm: Session Mtg.	15 3-6 pm: Training with Joe & Augusto	
16 9:30 am: Christian Ed. 10:30 am: Worship 4 pm: Hispanic Worship	17 <u>Newsletter Deadline</u>	18 10 am: Staff Meeting 3:15 pm: Central Zone 6:30 pm: Worship Mtg 8:30 pm: AA & Al-Anon	19 6:30 pm: Bell Choir 7:30 pm: Choir Pract.	20 21 Winter Wonderland Parade	22	
23 9:30 am: Christian Ed. 10:30 am: Worship 4 pm: Hispanic Worship 5 pm: Thanksgiving Din.	24	25 10:30 am: PWA Mtg. 3:15 pm: Central Zone 8:30 pm: AA & Al-Anon	26 6:30 pm: Bell Choir 7:30 pm: Choir Pract.	27 Thanksgiving 8:30 am: Turkey Trot	28	29
30 Hanging of the Greens 9:30 am: Christian Ed. 10:30 am: Worship 4 pm: Hispanic Worship						



MEN AT WORK



THANK YOU

- Thanks to Pastor Joe for providing us with Children's Chats each Sunday. The Christian Education committee is reporting an average of 4 children who then leave to participate in Children's Church upstairs. Thanks to Jenny Barhorst, Dawn Davis, Kay Miller, Mandy Milligan and Katie Steenrod for providing leadership for this class.
- Don & Yvonne Lochard would like to thank everyone that has sent cards to Don and those that have come to see him. He is doing better and still needs prayers for the healing of the foot. He will still be in the hospital for a few more weeks.
- Francis Durnell would like to thank the church for their support during Charles passing.
- Thank you to all of the volunteers who helped set up and "man the tables" during our Book Sale in October! Thanks go to Dawn Davis, Darryl Cloud, Joe, Kazy and Pauly Hinds, Elizabeth Davis, Richie Moore, Susan Hughes, Doug and Rita Bomba, Roger and Rosanna Grinstead, Pat and Carol Milligan, Tom and Polly Watkins, Marilyn McCarthy, Kay Miller, Bridget Hughes, Margie Tatum, Judie Dunn, JoAnn Reineke, Yvonne Lochard, and Annette and Charlie Castle. The totals aren't in yet, but we should have quite a bit of store credit from Grace Christian Bookstore to purchase new things for our church library. If you have any recommendations of items you'd like to see in our library, let Sarah know as soon as possible.

THANKSGIVING DINNER

The Membership Committee would like to invite everyone to our annual Thanksgiving Dinner, to be held on Sunday, November 23rd at 5:00 PM. We will again have the traditional Thanksgiving menu, and will be serving in both the downstairs dining room and the parlor. Please make your reservations by either filling out the form in your bulletin or calling the church office. Also, if you would like to help the committee in any way (cook a turkey for the dinner, decorate the tables, etc.) please let Ed Miller know. Everyone will be asked to bring a dessert to share.

PRAYER MINISTRY

Please pray for Margaritha Anderson, Erma Davis, Robert Dunham, Charles Durnell, Frances Durnell, Tibor Jonas, Maxine Kauffman, Evelyn Kiracofe, Elizabeth Lochard, Nina Nichols, Loren Oakes, Elizabeth Palmer, Shirley Roberts, Chris Schwepe, Florence Shine, Margaret Woods, Irene McVeyand, Gene Mohn, Don Lochard, Jane Miller and Dick Fisher.



Adult Education Classes

The Adult Education Class will begin studying the book What Do You Want for Christmas by James W. Moore during the Advent season. If you would like to join the group, please see Tom Watkins for a copy of the book. They are currently studying Noah Built His Ark in the Sunshine. Newcomers are always welcome.

HISPANIC MINISTRY

Greetings from your Brothers and Sisters in the Hispanic Ministry. As most of you are aware, Commissioned Lay Pastor for Hispanic Ministry, Augusto Medina, will be returning to Honduras after the Christmas season. He has decided that it is time that he and his wife, Norma Lidia, establish their lives together there. Norma Lidia will be here through our Christmas season so we expect the Christmas season to be especially joyous this year for the ministry. Several members of the FPC Hispanic community have taken the opportunity to meet with Pastor Joe to discuss the ministry's current status and plan for the future of the ministry. Looking to the future, it is the sincere hope of the FPC Hispanic community that a Hispanic pastoral leader be identified to lead worship and continue leadership of the Growth Group started by Augusto. Despite the pressures of work, family, separation from loved ones in other lands, and immigration challenges, the Church's Hispanic community, still numbering some 20 adults, identifies with First Presbyterian Church as its faith community. As this ministry moves forward beyond Augusto's time with us, please pray for the continued witness of First Presbyterian Church with the Hispanic community in Sidney.

SONRISE CAFÉ

The Sonrise Café was closed while the book sale was taking place, but it's back open now. Be sure to stop by for some coffee or tea and conversation about "what's happening this week in your world?" as we figure out what to do as Christians in today's world. It will take quite some time to figure this out, so we'll be around for awhile. Come check it out!



Feel free to stop by on Sunday mornings during the Sunday school hour (9:30-10:30) as we enjoy coffee, cappuccino, hot tea or hot chocolate and some fresh conversation.

HERITAGE PROJECT



Do you have a favorite picture, letter, article or memory that you would like added to the church archives? Contact the church office to loan or donate your items.

Call Rick Steenrod at 498-0015 or email steenrodfamily@embarqmail.com with questions. All are welcome in the effort to get our Heritage Room up and running!

The next meeting will held on Monday, November 3rd at 7:00 pm.

Presbyterian Women



The Presbyterian Women will begin to meet again on Tuesday, November 25th at Dorothy Love Retirement Center. The discussion will be on Lesson One, "Jesus Announces Jubilee."

All programs / meetings are held at Dorothy Love in the Aspen Room at 10 am. If you are interested in attending please contact Elizabeth Davis for more information.



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 3: Martha Vargas**
- 6: Dennis Hughes**
- 8: John Burkhardt**
- 10: Sandra Ruese**
John Amos
- 12: Evelyn Kiracofe**
- 14: Ross Moore III**
- 16: Jane Miller**
- 18: Charisse Brining**
- 20: Alexa Blazquez**
- 22: Noah Shook**
- 25: Anne Abbott**
- 28: Rita Bomba**
Maria Blazquez
- 29: Sharon Kramer**
Kirk Brining



ANNIVERSARIES

- 1: Dick & Julie Cloud (17)**
- 12: Roger & JoAnn Reineke (42)**
- 16: Ross & Aunalee Moore (56)**
- 19: Bob & Virginia Livermore (31)**
- 21: Stan & Robin Hughes (10)**

RECIPE CORNER

Beefy One-Pot Dinner

Ingredients:

- 1 lb. lean ground beef
- 1 c. chopped onions
- 1 c. thinly sliced carrots
- 1 c. finely chopped potatoes
- 1 c. water
- 1 c. Baked beans (14 oz)
- 1/2 c. Kraft Original Barbecue Sauce
- 1 c. Shedd cheddar cheese

Directions:

1. **BROWN** meat in large nonstick skillet on medium-high heat; drain. Add vegetables; cook 5 min., stirring occasionally.
2. **STIR** in water. Reduce heat to medium-low; cover and simmer 10 min. or until vegetables are tender.
3. **ADD** beans and barbecue sauce; stir. Cook 5 min. or until heated through. Sprinkle with cheese.

For spicier flavor, stir in hot pepper sauce or ground red pepper (cayenne) to taste with the beans and barbecue sauce.

TURKEY JOE

We all like to have fun at FPC so we thought we would include Pastor Joe, now that he is here with us. Joe has challenged us to raise \$500 prior to Thanksgiving. If we accomplish this, he will wear a Turkey costume at the Turkey Trot event. Please drop your donations into the box in the back of the sanctuary.

“TURKEY JOE”
COLLECTION UPDATE: