Trinity Times

Trinity Presbyterian Church
4700 Nash Drive
The Colony, TX 75056
972-625-1702
January, 2012

9:00 AM Bible Study 10:00 AM Fellowship 10:30 AM Worship Service

Pastor's Pen,

## A New Year of Living

Most New Year's Eves Wayne and I would be in Iowa with our long time friends. Not this year because New Year's day was on a Sunday. So instead we are staying home on the 31st and playing babysitters and celebrating my son's 37th birthday. I can not believe I have a son that is 37! Years keep coming and going and I know both the blessings and the curse of time. At 60 things do not work as well as they used to and I now have pain in places I didn't know I had places. Still life is beautiful, for I have grandchildren and those you don't get until you are older.

As the new year dawns I begin to think about the past, present, and future. I know in this past year my mistakes still haunt me and my successes are too soon forgotten. Worry about some new problem keeps me from resting well so I figure this year my New Year's resolution needs to be to let go of things that keep me from living life with joy.

This resolution is probably the hardest. I have a terrible habit of giving up the past and placing it in God's hands and then taking them back to worry over them again. In reality I find this to be sin. It shows a lack of trust and a lack of faith in forgiveness. Yet, I do trust that God will take care of most people and that sin confessed and given into the hands of our Savior is forgiven. However, I can't get my heart and my head to get in sync. Holding on to the past is an emotional thing. I am emotionally attached to that which I should have done better. The problem with that is that it doesn't make things better. If I truly want to be better at things I have made mistakes with I need to give them over to God and watch. In a new time, and in a forgiven grace, the Spirit can show me what I need to do. If I have been slow to act, the Spirit can quicken my steps. If I have acted in haste, the Spirit can slow me down. So again, this New Year's Day, I am going to say "Lord, I dedicate my life to your service. Help me put the past away and live in the present and let me move into the future trusting that You can do all things".

I am always hopeful that this year I will begin new and fresh by leaving the past behind and moving into the future without fear. I know I will make mistakes. It is part of the human condition. The good news of the Gospel is that mistakes are not what gives life meaning. What gives life meaning is turning again and again to God for forgiveness and starting fresh and new. For Jesus told us to forgive my brother and sister 7 x 70. I know my Lord goes way beyond this and forgives those who are repentant. My wish for you is to remember that as a new year dawns a new life in Jesus awaits those who trust in his message, and that as we put our hand to the plow we must not look back but move in a positive manner into the future.

Friends let your head and heart agree that in Christ we are new beings. We can make the world a better place knowing that we are the church forgiven, loved, and encouraged to go into the world to share the good news in a way that can truly bring peace.

Rev. Bev

Reverend Beverly Hughes 972-423-8611 (h)

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# Important Dates

## Birthdays

| | |
|---|---|
| 1/1 | Amy Olson |
| 1/2 | Toni Fiedler |
| 1/4 | Camille Marchelleta |
| 1/7 | Greg Ward |
| | Kate Bobo |
| 1/9 | Gloria Parsons |
| | Andrea Skinner |
| | Josephine Wambaa |
| 1/12 | Kathy Lawson |
| 1/13 | Betty Wright |
| 1/15 | Dana Donahue |
| 1/29 | James Talley |
| 1/31 | Bonnie Shelley |

## Anniversaries

There are no anniversaries for the month of January.

## Ushers

| | |
|---|---|
| 1/1 | Ruth Horton<br>Charlie Horton<br>Daniel Bauer<br>Harvey Wright |
| 1/8 | Terri Decker<br>Brad Decker<br>Debi Ward |
| 1/15 | Kate Bobo<br>Rachel Bobo<br>Joseph Uwakwe<br>Joe Cesspooch |
| 1/22 | Gloria Parsons<br>Nancy Hearon<br>Joy Koch<br>Marilyn Schilling |
| 1/29 | Ruth Horton<br>Charlie Horton<br>Daniel Bauer<br>Harvey Wright |

**Financial Status**
**For 2011 Budget Year**

Week ending 12/25/11:
$3,727.00

Year to date:
$215,588.35

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# Trinity News

**Road to Recovery**
**Another Way You Can Help Others**

Cancer has touched many of you in one way or another, either through a family member or friend, or even personally. Patients going through treatment often have to have chemotherapy and/or radiation treatments that go on for weeks. Most of these take place during regular business hours Monday through Friday requiring absences from work.

The American Cancer Society has a program in place for volunteer drivers who wish to help take some of the burden off patients or their families by assisting with transportation to cancer treatments. Patients and their families are so grateful to have the help. Some patients may live alone and be too ill or too elderly to drive themselves.

Trinity has had a good group of volunteer drivers but some have had to drop out due to their own health and other factors. The need for drivers is ongoing and any time a driver is called for an assignment they may accept or decline. There is an application process and a brief training involved before a new volunteer may drive patients. There is also a way to receive nominal reimbursement for gasoline expenses through the ACS. But the best reimbursement of all is the good feeling you get for helping another child of God.

If you have been blessed with free time during the day, a good driving record, an insured automobile, and a heart to help others in need, please consider becoming an ACS Road to Recovery volunteer. To sign up, or for more information, contact the church office, 972.625.1702 or Dee Stokes at 972.625.1454.

Inviting all to

Jim Harmon and Friends

Birthday Concert

February 17, 2012

7:30 PM

Dear Brothers & Sisters,

Thank you so much for your recent food drive for us. As the needs in The Colony grow, we rely more on The Lord and our friends & neighbors to give! What a blessing you are! May you be blessed and may you know how deeply you are appreciated by us.

Love,

The Storehouse Volunteers
We love because He first loved us

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# Children's Ministries

We held the Birthday Party for Jesus on Saturday, December 10th. There were 7 children in attendance. The children each brought an unwrapped toy which we took to the fire station and they were so happy to receive these. We acted out the Christmas story, played games (Pin the Ornament on the Christmas Tree), sang carols, sang Happy Birthday to Jesus and ate birthday cake.

The "Rays of Sonshine" got to sing twice in December. On Sunday, December 11th and again on Christmas Eve. They sang "Away in a Manger, Silent Night, and Come On, Ring Those Bells". We are beginning practices now for the New Year. Practice is on Sunday mornings at 9:45, right after Sunday School. Sunday school begins at 9:00 am.

We do not have an event planned for January but are working on scheduling events for 2012. The Children's Committee meeting will be held Sunday, January 8th immediately after church. Anyone interested in what is going on with the Children's program is welcome to attend.

We are in need of a Sunday School teacher for our 1st and 2nd graders. If anyone feels this calling please contact Ruth Horton and let her know, otherwise she might be calling you.

Ruth Horton
Elder—Children's Ministries

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# Expansion Packs!

The other day my wife sent me to the store for a few things. She didn't need them right away so I had plenty of time and decided to take a few minutes to wander around. Since I really didn't need anything I was just looking and letting my mind explore the possibilities.

I discovered a small section dedicated to the several of the "Trading Card" games that are popular among young people. I didn't recognize most of them, but I did see one familiar name. It was a game called, "Magic: The Gathering." This game has been around for a long time, which is why I recognized it. I played the game a few times with some of the kids in our church youth group back in the early '90's.

The "Magic: The Gathering" game is a strategy game played by two or more players each of whom has a customized deck of game cards. Over the course of the game, each player will take turns playing cards such as lands, which enable you to play your other cards, creatures, sorceries, and other spells.

According to the publisher's web site, "The best part about a trading card game is that it's always changing. You design and build your own unique decks, and each game you play is different. New expansions are released a few times a year, and each new expansion brings new ways to stupefy and defeat your opponents."

It was one of those expansion packs that caught my eye and sparked my imagination; although perhaps not in the way the publisher had hoped. I started thinking about all the other areas of our lives where an "expansion pack" might come in handy.

One of the first that came to mind is a common problem faced by many, if not most people, these days. On those days when your plate is full and there are just too many things to do and not enough time for all of them. It would be nice to be able to buy an expansion pack for your day; something that gives you an extra four hours.

Then there are those times when the world seems to be ganging up on you. Nothing seems to be going right and your faith in humanity and especially your faith in God is wearing thin and getting a little ragged around the edges. Wouldn't it be nice if there was an expansion pack for that?

Well, the good news is that there is an expansion pack for faith. Even better, as it turns out, there are several expansion packs available. One expansion pack is to surround yourself with friends who can share some of their faith when yours is weak. Another expansion pack is participating in weekly worship services at the church of your choice.

However, the best and most powerful of all the spiritual expansion packs is regular prayer. There are several examples in scripture of Christ taking time to pray. If it worked for Christ imagine what it can do for you?

John is the pastor of First Presbyterian Church in Prosper.

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# Trinity
# Organizational Structure

Session

Session Elders - Debra Sweeney, Ruth Horton, Lee Ann Bandy, Robin Dilger, Humphrey Wambaa, Lloyd Olson, Debra Whinnie, Dennis Yates, Paul Leddy

Session Moderator - Rev. Beverly Hughes

Clerk of Session - John Fiedler

Ministries

Worship – Debra Sweeney

Children – Ruth Horton

Youth – Lee Ann Bandy

Membership – Robin Dilger (includes Fellowship, Member Care and Member Involvement)

Team Leaders

Gloria Parsons, Camille Marchelletta, Mimi Montgomery

Adult Studies – Humphrey Wambaa

Evangelism – Lloyd Olson

Mission – Debra Whinnie

Points of Contact

Hurricane Ike Relief Galveston and Emanuel Presbyterian Church - Lynda Rice
Angel Food - Roly Rice
Hats for the Homeless - Laurie and Ron McKee
Never Ending Food Drive, A Youth Project - Tyler Winn
Road to Recovery -Dee Stokes
Volunteering at North Texas Food Bank -Pam Hampson
TPC Touchstones - (Does not begin until August 2011) -Cissi Bauer
Al's Hugs and Hammers Project - Janet Ohlig
Volunteering at The Stewpot-Second Chance Cafe- Frank and Debra Whinnie
Meals on Wheels - Lynda Rice

Facilitating – Dennis Yates

Committees

Property - Patrick Dilger
Grounds - Charlie Horton
Services - Steve Thomas
Finance - Larry Johnson

Personnel - Paul Leddy

Executive Director - Steve Thomas

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