



THE BREATH

Vol. 10, No. 1

Priest Lake Presbyterian Church

January 2010

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FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK



Dear Friends,

Anything could happen this year! Depending upon your attitude this can be exhilarating or dreadful. If you like predictability this statement may not be for you. It's scary to think that anything could happen. There could be bear attacks and car accidents, illness and divorce. And unfortunately, all these things could happen this year and will happen to someone. But like everything, there's a different way to hear this statement: anything could happen this year.

Philosopher Soren Kierkegaard wrote, "If I were to wish for anything, I should not wish for wealth and power, but for the passionate sense of the potential, for the eye which, ever, young and ardent, sees the possible...what wine is so sparkling, so fragrant, so intoxicating, as possibility!"

God has planned wonderful things for 2010! Good things will happen. People will get new jobs. Babies will be born. Relationships will be reconciled and new ones formed. Sickness will turn to health. Churches will grow. Ministries will expand and new ones will spring forth. For "nothing is impossible for God"!

I don't know what God has in store for you or for this church in 2010, but my hope for us all is that we would develop a "passionate sense of the potential"; that we would live in the hope that nothing is impossible for God. I can't promise you that bad things won't happen this year. I can promise you if you have eyes to see the potential of God's world, you will see the possible happen...and maybe, just maybe you will see the impossible.

May we all be open to God's blessing in 2010!

Pastor Paul



Lectionary Schedule for January

Jan 3, 2nd Sunday after Christmas

Jer. 31:7-14; Psalm 147:12-20
Eph. 1:3-14, John 1:(1-9) 10-18

Jan 10, Baptism of the Lord

Isa. 43:1-7; Psalm 29
Acts 8:14-17, Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

Jan 17, 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isa. 62:1-5; Psalm 36:5-10
1 Cor. 12:1-11; John 2:1-11

Jan 24, 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Neh. 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10; Psalm 19
1 Cor. 12:12-31a; Luke 4:14-21

Jan 31, 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jer. 1:4-10; Psalm 71:1-6
1 Cor. 13:1-13; Luke 4:21-30

Feb 7, 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isa. 6:1-8 (9-13); Psalm 138
1 Cor. 15:1-11; Luke 5:1-11



Life is not measured by the number of breaths we take, but by the moments that take our breath away.



Worship Committee News

“Thoughts on Resolution/Re-Solution”

~ Nancy Diana ~

A new decade has begun! And with it comes the tradition of making New Year’s resolutions. Many of us will start with a goal of getting in better shape or giving up a bad habit. Many of us will strive to be kinder or work harder. And many of us will simply admit that no amount of resolution-ing will get us to do those things we know we should do for ourselves. But rather than merely looking in judgment on our lives and our human condition, resolutions actually offer us an opportunity to re-look at solutions for the problems we are experiencing. We all understand that “resolution” can be defined as a formal intention of something we want to change in our lives. “Solution” is generally defined as a fix to a problem. “Re-” can be defined as “again and again. It also has another meaning when abbreviated to “re:” – regarding. If we put these two words together as “re-solution,” we can move beyond the formality and rigid expectation of resolution and into a more approachable action of looking again at solutions to improve our lives. That said, where do we truly find solutions? Only one answer is needed: from our Father God! Think on this: When we are desperate for a solution to a problem, what (hopefully) do we do? We pray! We ask God for help. We actually petition His assistance. Usually, however, when making New Year’s resolutions, God doesn’t normally factor into our statement of intention. But He should. Without him, we are incapable of changing our lives. We are unable to bring about solution to the myriad of problems that plague our daily existence. Thinking of a resolution more as a prayer than a stated intent actually brings us closer to successful re-solution than we could achieve on our own. So, this New Year’s, let your resolutions be your prayers and petitions to God. God will help you stay on course. He always does because He actually *knows* the course He’s chosen for you. Our new resolution? “Go with God.”



“God Happens” – Praise and Worship Service

~ Nancy Diana ~

As many of you know, when you've joined our Sunday night "God Happens - Praise & Worship" service, we have an inspiring evening of lifting our voices and spirits in energetic musical worship. A common reaction to this God-given energy is that we feel our "batteries" being recharged for the upcoming week with each word of blessing and thanks for the way God happens in our lives. For those of you who haven't had an opportunity to join this experience yet, this is a "come as you are" gathering of loving individuals who seek to relate to our Creator with the gifts that he bestows. Yes, the gift of music is involved, but mostly, it's the gift of grateful appreciation that we bring to His blessed presence. While each evening follows a common format - songs, prayer and message - each evening also reveals much about the personal way God happens for us. The visible and audible joy of our musicians in the gifts they bring is evident and moving. The peace brought by the words of acknowledgement for God's bounty (even in times of trial) is felt by those in attendance. The way the Spirit moves in whoever is bringing the message or prayer for the evening then spills over to all who are listening. And while we may be lively and loud in our worship, there remains an underlying current of gentle peace and glorious grace. Let this be an invitation to share in our Sunday gifts to God. Every Sunday at 6:30 P.M., PLPC opens its sanctuary for a "come as you are" fellowship to share contemporary musical praise and worship about the way God happens in our lives. PLPC invites believers and non-believers alike. All ages are welcome.



Pastor Paul has an Adult Bible Study on Wednesday mornings at 9:15 A.M. The group meets in the conference room. Bible study is as essential to the life of a Christian Community as breathing. Come join us and together we will “Breathe in the Word.”

Young Adults Group



~ Ray Handisides ~

If you are College age through mid-30's (or if you think you fit in this category) join us for fun, fellowship and study. We will meet every other Friday night at 6:30 P.M. Our next get together will be January 8th. If you have any questions please call Ray Handisides @ 335-4161.

Seekers Class

~ Ray Handisides ~



Do you remember the old favorite TV show “Gilligan’s Island?” Did you know that the creator based the characters on the seven deadly sins? Starting January 10th we will be doing a 7-part study based on Gilligan’s Island. Join us as we explore the seven deadly sins of the castaways. We will see the laziness of Gilligan, the anger of the Skipper, the Professor’s pride, the lustful Ginger and how Mary Ann envies her, while Mr. Howell gets greedy while watching his wife, the gluttonous Lovey Howell.

**Treasurer's Report
January 2010**



~ Jim Gracy ~
Treasurer

Our income for the month of December was \$22,000.00 with expenses of \$15,000.00. This is a great improvement over the previous eleven months. This increase in income was due to some members contributing to their pledges for the 2009-year and some contributing for the year 2010. The loss for the year was \$6,910.00. It happens that we will have another year of negative cash flow. Thanks to all who have given from their heart during the past year.

May the Lord shine his Holy face upon you.

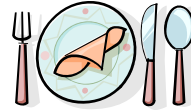
**Revenues and Expenses for the
Period Jan 1 - December 31, 2009
(Operating accounts only)**

Revenues:	
Pledge Contributions	\$122,116.75
Loose Offerings	21,562.65
Other	4,440.57
Total Revenues	\$148,119.97
Expenses:	
Personnel	\$ 92,523.91
General (includes mortgage)	30,743.47
Properties	24,576.93
Committees	2,311.28
Other	4,875.20
Total Expenses	\$155,030.85
Net Income (Loss)	(\$6,910.88)



"I wondered why somebody didn't do something.
Then I realized, I was somebody."

~ unknown ~



**Martha's Kitchen
~ Leesa Fields ~**

Martha's Kitchen Marks one Year!!

It's hard to believe that we have been feeding the hungry in our community for an entire year!!

Even though things seem a little brighter for our economy, there are still many people struggling to feed their families. We have seen many families come through Martha's Kitchen and we are still serving 12-18 families each Sunday.

We haven't been blessed with baked goods that are donated to us by a local church. They serve a meal at their church and share their leftover bread, cakes and pies with us. After Martha's Kitchen, we then take the leftovers to Second Harvest at Hamilton Methodist Church. Nothing goes to waste!

If you are interested in helping with Martha's Kitchen, contact Mary Anna Simon, the co coordinator for scheduling volunteers by email at maryasimon@yahoo.co.uk or Sue Handisides by email at shandisides@yahoo.com.



~ Leesa Fields ~
Chili Lunch Planned

Plan now to attend a Chili Lunch on Sunday, January 24, immediately following worship.

We'll serve chili and all the fixings. The charge for the chili lunch is by donation and is sponsored by the High School Youth Group.



CHRISTMAS FOOD BOXES ~ Stewart Smothers ~

Congratulations PLPC!

The success of our Christmas Food Box program can only be answered by:

GLORY BE TO GOD!!

Because of the generous outpouring of food and offerings as well as a generous check from Priest Lake Christian Fellowship and an anonymous donor we were able to deliver 72 boxes of food to families in need. This is almost three times what we delivered last year.

At an average cost of \$35.00 per box, this included the ham, we raised over \$2500.00. We also were able to provide two girls with coats and shoes.

I am not going to try and name everyone that participated because I am sure I would overlook someone, but a few people do need to be recognized:

First: Leesa Fields for all the time and effort she put in not only assembling the bags with lists, but also labeling the individual boxes with the items needed. She also spent many hours shopping for the hams as well as additional food items we needed to complete the boxes and then making sure each box was correct.

Second: Pastor Paul for donating refrigerator magnets that contained a calendar and information on how to contact our church. He also was on a number of shopping trips with Leesa.

Third: Jim Gracy for our transportation coordinator. Jim had the routes laid out so each delivery person had 4 or 5 stops. We all left about the same time and returned about the same time. Great job Jim!

Fourth: Sue Handisides for providing the information sheets on the programs PLPC offers. This assisted those delivering on what PLPC has to offer in Christian and community assistance.

Fifth: Susan Rowell for coordinating the names as they came in and passing them on to Jim. Thanks for all that you do.

Sixth: Primera Iglesia Church for joining us not only in providing names, but also in the delivery.

On behalf of the Mission Committee I want to thank each and everyone for all your assistance. You made my Christmas merry as well as many other people.

May each of you have a Blessed and prosperous New Year.



Ladies Lunch Bunch

- Florence Sass -

All the ladies of the church and friends are invited to our next gathering which will be on Thursday, January 21st. We plan to go to "Apple's Chinese Buffet and Grill" on Murfreesboro Road in LaVergne. We will be eating in the private dining room and the price of the buffet lunch is \$6.59 per person. If you plan to join us, meet at the church at 10:30 A.M. to carpool. Please contact Florence at 220-4538 or by email at dsass68553@aol.com by Tuesday, January 19th to let her know you'll be coming. Please bring ideas for next month outing after trying it out and making sure that they take group reservations.

CareS Schedule

~ Crystal Caviness ~
**CareS Kicks Off Second Semester
and Adds Youth Choir**



CareS is set for its second semester when it kicks off at 5:30 P.M. Wednesday, January 13. The youth program, for ages Kindergarten through 12th grade, is open to friends of the congregation and community. We love to welcome new faces!

An exciting addition to the program this semester is a new youth choir. The youth choir will rehearse from 5:45 P.M. - 6:30 P.M. on alternate weeks with the Chime Choir, so there will be a music option each week. Bring your joyful voices!

Watch for a full schedule in the coming weeks. Nightly schedule is below:

5:30 P.M. - Arrival
5:45 P.M. - Chime Choir/Youth Choir rehearsal
5:45 P.M. - Recreation
6:30 P.M. - Praise and Prayer Time with Pastor Paul
6:45-7:15 P.M. - Dinner
7:15-8 P.M. - Class time; Dismissal from classes

Suggested cost: \$3.00 per session. No one will be turned away due to nonpayment.

We look forward to seeing all youth ages Kindergarten through 12th grade on Jan. 13 because Children Are Special!!

WALK

(Women Are Love Keepers)

~ Crystal Caviness ~

New women's group starts January 17

Women love their families. Women love their churches. Women love their friends. Women love their neighbors. Women Are Love Keepers in our society and throughout the world.

Oftentimes, however, worries, frustrations, daily challenges threaten to tear apart the love. But when we WALK together as women of faith, we form a stronghold against life's struggles, enabling one another to face each day armed with the power of love.

Women of PLPC and our community are invited to join us at 4:30 P.M. Sunday, Jan.17, as we begin a journey. Women talking together. Women praying together. Women learning together. Women crying together. Women rejoicing together.

The group, titled WALK (Women Are Love Keepers), will meet weekly at 4:30 P.M. We will eat together at Martha's Kitchen, have our group time and then, for any who want, worship together at God Happens at 6:30 P.M. Childcare will be available from 4:30-6:30 P.M.

Together, we will WALK victoriously through our lives, because Women Are Love Keepers.



**January Schedule for
Worship Leaders,
Ushers, Greeters and Acolytes**

Jan 3	Worship Leader	Ray Handisides
Communion	Prepare/Usher/ Serve	Nancy Diana
	Greet/Usher/ Serve	Joyce Hanson Shirley Hansel
	Usher/Serve/ Cleanup	Stuart Smothers
	Serve Choir	Jon Loudermilk
Jan 10	Worship Leader	Mike Mosley
	Greeters	Chad Barton Valerie Barton
	Ushers	Ray Handisides Sue Handisides
Jan 17	Worship Leader	Kathy Ware
	Greeters	Wendy Yarnall Cathay McAninch
	Ushers	Fred Dahlman Belle Dahlman
Jan 24	Worship Leader	Bob Ware
	Greeters	Rick Laney Melanie Watson
	Ushers	Dori Hutchison Leesa Fields
Jan 31	Worship Leader	Dave Smith
	Greeters	Bill Allen Lenna Allen
	Ushers	Casey Walsh Nancy Walsh
Feb 7 Communion	Worship Leader	Walt Litaker
	Prepare/Usher/ Serve	Kathy Ware
	Greet/Usher/ Serve	Bob Ware Maggie Wright
	Usher/Serve/ Cleanup	Gloria Kimbro
	Serve Choir	Nancy Diana

ACOLYTES

Jan 3	Brooke Stuteville	Lauren Stuteville
Jan 10	Kelly Caviness	Davis Hutchison
Jan 17	Michaela Mosley	Faye Garcia
Jan 24	Bailey Koger	Brooke Stuteville
Jan 31	Davis Hutchison	Kelly Caviness
Feb 7	Faye Garcia	Mayerli Garcia

**January Calendar of Activities,
Birthdays and Anniversaries**

- 2 Stuart Smothers
- 3 **Guest Pastor – Sherard Edington**
Lectionary Class – 9:00 AM – Library
Sunday School – 9:00 AM – 10:00 AM – all ages
Seekers Class – 9:00 AM – Sunday school room
Martha’s Kitchen – 5:30 PM – 6:30 PM
“God Happens – Praise and Worship Fellowship” – 6:30 PM
Emily Cavanaugh
- 5 **Worship Committee Meeting – 6:00 PM**
- 6 **Bible Study – 9:15 AM**
Cares – 5:30 PM – 8:00 PM
Fred Dahlman
- 8 **Young Adults Group – 6:30 PM**
- 9 Elena Buwalda
Toby Culp
Jordan Greene
- 10 **Lectionary Class – 9:00 AM – Library**
Sunday School – 9:00 AM – 10:00 AM – all ages
Seekers Class – 9:00 AM – Sunday school room
Martha’s Kitchen – 5:30 PM – 6:30 PM
“God Happens – Praise and Worship Fellowship” – 6:30 PM
- 11 **Missions/Evangelism Committee Meeting – 7:00 PM**
- 13 **Bible Study – 9:15 AM**
Cares – 5:30 PM – 8:00 PM
Rob Phillips
- 14 Pastor Paul Burns
Mike Crenshaw
Matthew Fields
- 16 Bill Allen
Dave Smith
- 17 **Lectionary Class – 9:00 AM – Library**
Sunday School – 9:00 AM – 10:00 AM – all ages
Seekers Class – 9:00 AM – Sunday school room
Moms Who Care – 4:30 PM
Martha’s Kitchen – 5:30 PM – 6:30 PM
“God Happens – Praise and Worship Fellowship” – 6:30 PM
- 18 **Martin Luther King Day – Office Closed**
Session Meeting – 7:00 PM
- 20 **Bible Study – 9:15 AM**
Cares – 5:30 PM – 8:00 PM
- 21 **Ladies Lunch Bunch – 10:30 AM**
Paul Saunders
Jennie Harper
- 22 **Young Adults Group – 6:30 PM**
- 24 **Lectionary Class – 9:00 AM – Library**
Sunday School – 9:00 AM – 10:00 AM – all ages
Seekers Class – 9:00 AM – Sunday school room
Chili Lunch – following Worship
Moms Who Care – 4:30 PM
Martha’s Kitchen – 5:30 PM – 6:30 PM
“God Happens – Praise and Worship Fellowship” – 6:30 PM
Cristela Schrier
- 27 **Bible Study – 9:15 AM**
Cares – 5:30 PM – 8:00 PM
- 31 **Lectionary Class – 9:00 AM – Library**
Sunday School – 9:00 AM – 10:00 AM – all ages
Seekers Class – 9:00 AM – Sunday school room
Chili Lunch – following Worship
Moms Who Care – 4:30 PM
Martha’s Kitchen – 5:30 PM – 6:30 PM
“God Happens – Praise and Worship Fellowship” – 6:30 PM

In order to keep our birthday and anniversary lists accurate and up-to-date, let the office know of any corrections and additions.



~ Sue Handisides ~

**Project J.O.Y. Has partnered
With Goodwill Industries of Nashville
And we have filled our FIRST BIG BLUE BIN!**

Our **BIG BLUE BIN** is located in the Sunday School hall next to the Hawg Pen. We have filled the first bin and it has been picked up and we have earned our first Goodwill Credit Points for Project J.O.Y. This is an awesome opportunity for Project J.O.Y. and for Goodwill Industries. We can increase donations to this worthwhile community organization and can help Project J.O.Y. at the same time. This is so convenient you can just bring your donation to church when you come on Sunday or any morning while the office is open. Receipts are available so you can claim this donation for taxes if you like. You don't have to wait until September to bring donations they can be brought in ANYTIME!!!!

We will sort through donations and if there are any of the items we are short of for Project J.O.Y. (like jeans or kid's clothes) pull these items out and set them aside. We decided after this year's trip that we can't wait until August to start collecting the donations, it needs to be a year round job. This became quit evident this year when we ran completely out of jeans and clothes for boys and men. We also feel that the Uniform Closet must continue year around as the need of donations of used School Uniforms is so great in our local community.

Project J.O.Y. will begin year around collection of warm winter clothes plus you will have the convenience of dropping off anything that you would normally take to Goodwill. (Must fit in the bin) Items acceptable for donation will include clothes but also house wares, small appliances, linens, baby supplies and many other items that you will see on the detailed list. (Receipts for taxes can be provided). Goodwill will supply us

with a rolling bin and will pick it up monthly. Every full bin picked up will build credit for Project J.O.Y. That can be used in any Goodwill Retail Store for items we always need like little boys jeans or shoes.

So tell your friends and neighbors that we are looking for donations of warm winter clothes, jeans, sweatshirts, coats and shoes for Project J.O.Y. and we will take any other items and pass them on to Goodwill.

One Stop will help Two Groups!

Flyers are located near the BIG BLUE BIN with a detail list of acceptable items for donations. If you have any questions please contact Sue @ shandisides@yahoo.com or call 335-4190.



**Paul's Pantry
~ Cathay McAninch &
Martha Cross ~**

It's not charity, it's community. Thanks to all who continue to support Paul's Pantry on the first Sunday of each month. Many of our neighbors are having a hard time and the demand for food boxes is much greater than in the past. Your food donations provide food boxes that Pastor Paul can hand out to those in need during the week. Pastor Paul used to give out one box a month and now it's two or three boxes a week. Items can be left in the hallway across from the nursery.



After Church Refreshments

If you have missed having cookies, juice and coffee after church as we chat with our friends and visitors, please sign up to bring refreshments for the week. There is a sign up sheet posted above the serving table. This is a nice way to close our worship gathering and get to know people better.

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Rev. Paul Burns
Phone: 615-366-0247
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A Happy
New
Year!

Editor – Susan Rowell, Secretary
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