



"TIDINGS"



January 2011

HAPPY NEW YEAR

GLOBAL GOOD LUCK TRADITIONS

HAPPY NEW YEAR

With a New Year upon us, here's a look at some of the good luck rituals from around the world.

AUSTRIA. The suckling pig is the symbol for good luck for the new year. It's served on a table decorated with tiny edible pigs. Dessert often consists of green peppermint ice cream in the shape of a four-leaf clover.

BELGIUM. In Belgium New Year's Eve is called Sint Sylvester Vooravond or Saint Sylvester Eve. On the réveillon, or New Year's Eve, family parties are thrown. At midnight everyone kisses, exchanges good luck greetings, and drinks toasts to absent relatives and friends. The cities, cafés, and restaurants are crowded with people who bid farewell to the Old Year. New Year's Day is called Nieuwjaarsdag. At this time of the year the children save money to buy decorated paper for writing holiday greetings to parents and god parents.

BENGALI. In Bengali they celebrate the New Year on the 13th or 14th of April, which is the first day of the month that they call Baisakh. They clean and decorate their houses in preparation for the New Year. They use flour to paint patterns on the ground out in front of their houses. In the middle of the design they place an earthenware pot, decorated with a red and white swastika which is a religious symbol, and filled with holy water and vermilion. Also inside the pot they place a mango tree branch, which must consist of five twigs and a number of leaves. The pot symbolizes good fortune for the family.

BRAZIL. In Brazil the lentil is believed to signify wealth, so on the first day of the New Year they serve lentil soup or lentils and rice. In Brazil on New Year's Eve priestesses of the local macumba voodoo cult dress in blue skirts and white blouses for a ceremony dedicated to the goddess of water, Yemanjá. A sacrificial boat laden with flowers, candles and jewelry is pushed out to sea from Brazil's famous Ipenama beach in Rio de Janeiro.

CHINA. The Chinese New Year "Yuan Tan" takes place between January 21 and February 20. The exact date is fixed by the lunar calendar, in which a new moon marks the beginning of each new month. For the Chinese New Year, every front door is adorned with a fresh coat of red paint, red being a symbol of good luck and happiness. Although the whole family prepares a feast for the New Year, all knives are put away for 24 hours to keep anyone from cutting themselves, which is thought to cut the family's good luck for the next year.

DENMARK. In Denmark it is a good sign to find your door heaped with a pile of broken dishes at New Years. Old dishes are saved year around to throw them at the homes where their friends live on New Years Eve. Many broken dishes were a symbol that you have many friends. New Year's Eve is framed by two important items broadcast on television and radio, respectively the monarch's New Year Speech at 6pm and the striking of midnight by the Town Hall Clock in Copenhagen, which marks the start of the new year.

EGYPT. In Egypt the New Year is a public holiday and has a very festive atmosphere. Although they know in advance when the New Year begins they still observe the custom of the new crescent moon must be seen before the official announcement is made. The sighting is carried out at the Muhammad Ali mosque which is at the top of the hill in Cairo. The message is then passed on to the religious leader known as the Grand Mufti and he proclaims the New Year. The men who have been waiting outside the mosque wish each other a happy New Year by saying "Kol Sana We Enta Tayeb!" (article continued inside)



Newsletter of the Hillsboro First United Methodist Church

STAFF

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Organist

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Contemporary Music Director

Ron Current

Custodian

Tina Breaux



A LOOK AT JANUARY WORSHIP

8:00 a.m. - Adult Sunday School

9:00 a.m. - Traditional Service - Sanctuary

10:00 a.m. - Adult, Youth and Children's Sunday School

11:00 a.m. - Contemporary Service - Riber Hall

- January 2 -** Guest Speaker: Rev. Lynn Huffman
Message: The Good Samaritan
Scripture: Luke 10:25-37
- January 9 -** Message: The Jesus Journey: The Temptation
Scripture: Luke 4:1-13
- January 16 -** Message: The Jesus Journey: Nazareth
Scripture: Luke 4:14-30
- January 23 -** Message: The Jesus Journey: Through the Roof
Scripture: Luke 5:17-26
- January 30 -** Message: The Jesus Journey: Levi Follows Jesus
Scripture: Luke 5:27-32

“FINANCIAL PLAN FOR 2011” . . . Pastor Derek

As we move into the year 2011, it is important to have a financial plan that will faithfully grow the ministries of the church and be fiscally responsible. In this issue of the Tidings, we are including a copy of the approved budget for this coming year. This information is public and is fully disclosed to any who gives to the Kingdom of God through this church.

It's been my experience in the past that the budget numbers don't tell the whole story. When you haven't been part of the discussions and thought processes in forming the budget, sometimes the details of particular line items are confusing. I'd like to provide the following information that can be read alongside the budget to bring greater clarity for our financial plan. Also, I would like to give you a standing invitation if you have questions to either come in and talk to me or to contact Tom Watkins, our new Chairman of the Finance Committee. We want you to have all the information you need so that you feel confident when you put your gifts and tithes in the offering plate. Our aim is to be good stewards of what the Lord has given to us.

Looking at the attached budget, the first item you will see is our projected income for 2011 of \$298,163. This number is based on the results of our recently completed Consecration Sunday. Part of the task of the Finance Committee is to monitor the giving of the congregation throughout the year. If need be, the Finance Committee can adjust the church's spending during the year based on how the money comes in.

Under the heading “EXPENSES,” listed first are our apportionments to the West Ohio Annual Conference and to the Shawnee Valley District. If you are new to United Methodism, you probably don't know what (see page 6)

CHURCH OFFICE

Monday - Thursday

8:00 am - 4:00 pm

Closed for Lunch

12:00 - 1:00

Friday

8:00 am - 12:00 pm

Phone

937-393-2981

Fax

937-393-0025

Web Sites

www.hillsboromethodist.org
www.hillsboroyouth.org



TIDINGS

Please submit articles to the church office by email or in person no later than the 20th of the month.

Jill Reffner, Editor
wjreffner@sbcglobal.net

THANK YOU

Dear Church Family, Matt and I want to express how grateful and appreciative we are for all the love and support we have received from the church and its members. I have just begun attending again after some time away and am blessed to be surrounded by so much love and so many wonderful people. I grew up in this church and it still feels like family. We want to thank everyone for the prayers, cards, thoughts, phone calls and a thank you to the women's group for the monetary gift to help with travel. We have felt God's love throughout this adventure and have watched Him make Elijah stronger every day. Thanks again for your prayers - we look forward to getting back to church. Toni and Matt Lewis

THANK YOU

Thanks to all who contributed to the Thanksgiving Baskets. You are a blessing to others. The AM Circle

THANK YOU

To our church family - Thank you all for the cards, calls and visits while I had my knee replaced. It does make the days go better. Anna and Dick Spilker

THANK YOU

Thanks to all of you for the Love Offering we received from you. We all appreciate it very much and thank you for making our holiday even nicer. Sincerely, Your Church Staff

PARSONAGE TELEPHONE

We are doing away with the landline telephone at the parsonage. During the weekdays, you can reach Pastor Derek at the church office number, **393-2981**. You can always reach Pastor Derek through his cell phone. That number is **937-509-4830**.

MONDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY **7:00 P.M. IN THE CHURCH PARLOR** **EVERYONE IS WELCOME**

Beginning January 3rd we will be starting the study of Jonah and also have an after Christmas "special". Come join us for a time of prayer and Bible study.

REMEMBER OUR FRIENDS

AT HOME

Sally Barrere
Joan DeHaas
Jean Head
Mary Hiestand
Catherine Hottle
Herbert Hottle
Paul and Janie Johnson
Mary Levo
Don McCoppin
Janice Saunders
Mary Wharton
Katie Wilkin
Jean Wilson



REMEMBER OUR FRIENDS IN **CARE FACILITIES**

Heartland/Hillsboro - Wanda Bridges

Laurels/Hillsboro - Kathy Bowman,
John and JoAnne Walker

Crestwood/Hillsboro - Bill Conley

Highland House/Hillsboro - Florence Welder

Xenia - Marjorie McCreight

West Union - Jean Sapp

2011 GIVING ENVELOPES

The 2011 giving envelopes are ready to be picked up in Hiestand Hall. Envelope boxes are labeled with your name in alphabetical order. If you have not received envelopes in the past but would like a set for 2011, please put your name and address on the sign up sheet and envelopes will be available the following week, or contact the church office.

2011 YOUTH GIVING ENVELOPES

The youth giving envelopes have been ordered and will be here soon. Check the Sunday bulletin for pick up dates.

FLOWER CHART

The 2011 flower chart is posted in Hiestand Hall.



ACOLYTES

- 1/2 Tye Alexander and Micah Pinney
- 1/9 Jacob Lerch and Spencer Rudy
- 1/16 Kennedy Harless and Faye Wooden
- 1/23 Chloe Harless and Jessica Lerch
- 1/30 Steven Burton and Jacob Lerch



ALTAR FLOWERS

- 1/2
- 1/9
- 1/16
- 1/23 Helen Hartman
- 1/30



CARE & CONCERN

Jackie Hopkins: 393-4327



GREETERS

- 1/2 Bob and Pam Nickell
- 1/9 Tom and Martha Watkins
- 1/16 Glenn and Opal Armstrong
- 1/23 Nola Streeter and Maxine Kratzer
- 1/30 Ray and Jolene Walker



HOME COMMUNION

- 1/2 Bob and Donna Armstrong
- Glenn and Opal Armstrong
- Mike and Mary Ellen McCarty



LITURGIST

- 1/2 Steve Vance
- 1/9 Donna Armstrong
- 1/16 Martha Watkins
- 1/23 Judy Ferguson
- 1/30 Mike McCarty



USHERS

Earl Burnett (Captain), Kevin Greer, Ned Lewis, Bob Nickell and Sam Rudy

COLLECTIONS REMINDER

Bar soap is the collection item for Samaritan Outreach for January. Collection boxes are in Hiestand Hall for all of our donation items.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Contact the people listed below if you are interested in any of the volunteer opportunities within our church:

Acolytes	Leslie Lerch	288-9808
Altar Flowers	Church Office	393-2981
Our Daily Bread	Anna Spilker	402-4543
Care and Concern	Suzanne Devore	288-2352
Greeters	Ruth West	764-1176
Home Communion	Donna Summers	393-9676
Hospitality - 11 a.m.	Warren Bridges	695-0053
Liturgist	Jill Reffner	927-2760
Nursery	Suzanne Devore	288-2352
Saturday Soup/Sand.	Anna Spilker	402-4543
Ushers	Margaret Horst	393-3390

THANK YOU

We recognize and thank these persons who have served as ushers during 2010. They have made a strong commitment to serve the Lord in this manner.

Bill Alexander	Jackie Hopkins
Bob Armstrong	Tom Horst
Glenn Armstrong	Ron Jandes
Earl Burnett	New Lewis
Craig Burton	David Lieurance
Diana Carey	Mike McCarty
Don Carey	Pat Meranda
Lowell Chambers	David Myers
Carolyn Chambers	Russ Newman
Mike Dunnagan	Bob Nickell
Don Edenfield	Omer Price
Don Edwards	Sam Rudy
Don Edwards Jr.	Charlie Shreve
Howard Ellis	Ken Shoemaker
Ray Erickson	Dick Spilker
Judy Ferguson	Nick Thompson
Waldo Ferguson	Jim Tira
Mick Ford	Steve Vance
Allen Frump	Jolene Walker
John Graves	Ray Walker
Kevin Greer	Martha Watkins
Charles Griffith	Tom Watkins
Janet Griffith	Joe West
John Grimes	Jeff Wood
David Grover	Will Wooden
Chris Hopkins	

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

1/1 Gracie Thoroman
 1/2 Noah Bonecutter
 1/2 Russ Potts
 1/3 John Walker
 1/4 Helen Hiestand
 1/5 Micah Pinney
 1/5 Kara Russell
 1/6 Earl Burnett
 1/6 Suzanne Hopkins
 1/7 Heather Huff
 1/9 Zan Petrie
 1/9 JoAnne Walker
 1/10 Ozzie Johnson
 1/11 Suzanne Devore
 1/14 Bill Maness
 1/14 Bob Barger
 1/16 Timothy Pinney
 1/17 Sandy Shoemaker
 1/18 Jaime Edenfield Bonecutter
 1/18 Chris Hopkins
 1/19 Jeffrey Beery
 1/19 Dick Spilker
 1/19 Kristy Rudy
 1/19 Jim Ferrell
 1/20 Haley Vance
 1/21 Arianna Armstrong
 1/24 Paul Johnson
 1/25 Helen Hartman
 1/25 Jenny Grieshaber
 1/27 Glenn Armstrong
 1/28 Renee Breedon
 1/29 Craig Burton
 1/29 Sara Barger
 1/30 Joseph Rudy
 1/31 Andrea Thompson



CHILDREN'S MUSIC MINISTRY THE RAINBOW CHOIR



The Wee Singers have a new name - **The Rainbow Choir!** This age group of children, ages 3 to 8, does more than just sing. They also play instruments, which include rhythm sticks and hand bells.

The hand bells are bright colors of the rainbow, and there are eight colors of hand bells in each set. The Rainbow Choir was able to purchase two set of bells along with two sets of the musical CD's and cards, thanks to the many generous donations from some of our church families in memory of loved ones.

The Rainbow Choir practices on Sunday mornings from 10:05 a.m. – 10:25 a.m. in the sanctuary and the group rotates performing at the traditional and contemporary services. We would love to have more children between the ages of 3 - 8 join the choir. If you have any questions, please call Pam Pinney at 393-6623.

Hand Bells Purchased in Memory of Loved Ones

The Rainbow Choir colored hand bells were purchased by the following members of Hillsboro United Methodist Church in memory of:

John C. Steward and H. Dale Walker by Dan and Kristin Walker; *William Joel Alexander* by Bill and Carleen Alexander; *L. Clifford Smith* by Brent and Jill Kelch; and *John R. Vance* by Steve and Amy Vance.

NEWS FROM THE CONTEMPORARY SERVICE

After many years of faithfully leading the Praise and Worship Team, Mindy Lee has decided to hand those responsibilities to someone else. For the time being, Ron Current has stepped in and is doing a wonderful job in leading the music for that service. Thank you to both Mindy and Ron for giving your time and talents for the Contemporary Service.

JANUARY 5TH - TAKE DOWN CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS

Please join us on Wednesday, January 5th, at 9:00 a.m. to help take down our Christmas decorations.

JANUARY WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

1/1 Bob and Pam Nickell
 1/1 Lowell and Elizabeth McCarty
 1/1 Derek and Linda Russell
 1/11 Russ and Mary Potts
 1/20 Chad and Melanie Runyon
 1/31 Earl and Sharon Burnett



Today's Quote

I'm beginning to question my church's commitment to nutrition. At our church potlucks, carrot cake counts as a vegetable."

“FINANCIAL PLAN FOR 2011” - (continued) . . . Pastor Derek

apportionments are. As a United Methodist Church, we are connected throughout the world to other United Methodist churches and structures. We are able to be in mission to the world because we are connected throughout the world. Our apportionments undergird the United Methodist denomination financially, supporting such things like pension and health benefits for retired clergy, strengthening the network of United Methodist missionaries throughout the world, providing for Africa University which is the first private university in sub-Saharan Africa, providing the necessary resources for General Conference which is a quadrennial gathering of United Methodist leaders who determine our church's official positions and matters pertaining to our discipline, along with a host of other ministries. Conference apportionments are the lion's share of what we are assessed and go to the Conference Office in Columbus. District apportionments support the ministries of the United Methodist Church in our county and in 8 other counties here in southern Ohio. In 2009, we paid half of one percent of our Conference apportionments and 50% of our District askings. This last year, we paid 25% of our Conference askings and 100% of the District askings. This year, our goal is to pay 50% of the Conference apportionments and 100% of the District apportionments. The Finance Committee would like to increase our payment of Conference apportionments by 25% each year until we reach the full amount for the Conference. Our budget reflects the full amount because we are required by the denomination to do so.

The next heading is “Nurturing.” This is the lifeblood of our church, and we do not want to shortchange what is needed in these areas. We are planning for strategic increases in spending this year for the areas of Sunday School, Missions, Hospitality, and Evangelism. We are also including some of the costs associated with our Consecration Sunday in the line “Stewardship-Finance.”

There are several important things to note under the heading of “Lay Staff.” First, this is the fourth year in a row that we have been unable to provide increases in salary for most of our staff. One exception is that we have increased compensation for our Contemporary Worship Leader to bring greater equity between the two worship services in how we pay our musicians. We also want to help provide a consistent presence in our Nursery by paying an individual for three and a half

hours for each Sunday morning. This person will work with our current volunteers in that area.

The “Office Supplies” area of our financial plan provides for the smooth administrative operating of our church. The line for “office equipment,” is for repairing our equipment. The line for leased equipment represents what we pay for leasing our copier.

Looking down the budget to the line, “Contingency,” we have been in the habit of keeping \$5,000 in this line just in case we have unidentified expenses in the year. We have reduced this by \$3,000 because we are trying to identify our expenses ahead of time in a more effective manner.

The “Property Maintenance” and “Utilities” lines are under the direction of the church Trustees. Money allocated to these lines provides for the proper upkeep and care of our church property and church owned parsonage. Utilities for the parsonage can be found under the heading “Ministerial Support.” The utilities for the parsonage are somewhat elevated this year because of the transition from the Shonkwilers to the Russells. We now have four people in the parsonage instead of two.

As you look to the bottom line of the budget, you will see that it records a deficit of \$11,632. Remember that the budget reports 100% of our Conference apportionments, of which we are planning on paying half. When you take that into consideration, it leaves our current financial plan in the black by \$9,998. Again, the Finance Committee will monitor how the actual money comes in and determine adjustments along the way. The good news is that we are able to be increasingly faithful in paying our apportionments, provide for strategic increases in the “Nurturing” area of our budget, fund a nursery staff position for Sunday mornings, and have a balanced budget when it comes to income and expenditures.

I would like to thank the Church Council, the Finance Committee, and the Consecration Sunday Team for making this plan possible. Most of all, I would like to thank the people of Hillsboro First UMC who are giving faithfully. Your pattern of giving makes a big difference in allowing this church to continue offering strong, biblically-based ministry to our community.

Pastor Derek



FOLLOWING JESUS TO VIETNAM

The Shawnee Valley District mission to Vietnam arose out of an effort that began when Bishop Ough and others traveled to that country in 2001 to explore possibilities for sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ. While there were obstacles aplenty there was also a feeling that there were more opportunities than obstacles. In 2008 the District made the commitment to this country and began planning strategy. This strategy included a trip to Vietnam in March, 2009. The Shawnee Valley Team included 7 clergy, including Dr. Joseph Bishman, DS, and 2 lay persons, one a doctor and one a Vietnam Veteran. Over the course of two weeks this group trained Vietnamese pastors, met in house churches, and purchased property to be used as a United Methodist Center. Beyond the accomplishment of these tasks, though, a strong bond was formed between the District and our brothers and sisters in Vietnam. The team experienced first hand reconciliation between former military enemies, a realization that we serve the same Lord, and a commitment to love and support each other.

Several directives were identified for future work. Among these are development of a medical mission effort, continued pastoral training and support, assistance for the construction of church buildings, and establishment of the United Methodist Church as a government recognized faith in Vietnam. Following Jesus to Vietnam has shown us that mountains can truly be moved, one shovel, one basket, one cart at a time!

GARY HOPKINS IS GOING TO VIETNAM!

Congratulations to Gary Hopkins who was asked by Rev. Joseph Bishman to join the mission team going to Vietnam February 21st to March 7th. Gary will be riding a small motorcycle along the approximate 1,000 miles from Hanoi to Ho Che Minh City, formerly Saigon, (about 150 miles per day), along with other missionaries from our district. The group will be holding services, baptizing, working on churches, testifying, witnessing, teaching, and sharing the ministry of Jesus Christ to the people in villages and cities of Vietnam. Please keep Gary and the group in your prayers, that His will be done !

“The secret of a good sermon is to have a good beginning and a good ending, then having the two as close together as possible.” George Burns

AULD LANG SYNE



The song, "Auld Lang Syne," is sung at the stroke of midnight in almost every English speaking country in the world to bring in the new year. At least partially written by Robert Burns in the 1700's, it was first published in 1796 after Burns' death. Early variations of the song were sung prior to 1700 and inspired Burns to produce the modern rendition. An old Scottish tune, "Auld Lang Syne" literally means "old long ago," or simply, "the good old days." The lyrics are (English translation):

Should old acquaintance be forgot,
and never brought to mind ?
Should old acquaintance be forgot,
and old lang syne ?

CHORUS:

For auld lang syne, my dear,
for auld lang syne,
we'll take a cup of kindness yet,
for auld lang syne.

And surely you'll buy your pint cup !
and surely I'll buy mine !
And we'll take a cup o' kindness yet,
for auld lang syne. CHORUS

We two have run about the slopes,
and picked the daisies fine ;
But we've wandered many a weary foot,
since auld lang syne. CHORUS

We two have paddled in the stream,
from morning sun till dine ;
But seas between us broad have roared
since auld lang syne. CHORUS

And there's a hand my trusty friend !
And give us a hand o' thine !
And we'll take a right good-will draught,
for auld lang syne. CHORUS

A Holiday Observation: If your Christmas Eve service doesn't involve candles being held by some people who really shouldn't handle fire, you're missing one of the most exciting elements of the holy season.

The Forgotten Beatitude: Blessed are you if you can laugh at yourself, for you shall never cease to be amused.

GLOBAL TRADITIONS (continued)

ENGLAND. The British place their fortunes for the coming year in the hands of their first guest. They believe the first visitor of each year should be male and bearing gifts. Traditional gifts are coal for the fire, a loaf for the table and a drink for the master. For good luck, the guest should enter through the front door and leave through the back. Guests who are empty-handed or unwanted are not allowed to enter first.

GERMANY. In Germany people would drop molten lead into cold water and try to tell the future from the shape it made. A heart or ring shape meant a wedding, a ship a journey, and a pig plenty of food in the year ahead. People also would leave a bit of every food eaten on New Year's Eve on their plate until after Midnight as a way of ensuring a well-stocked larder. Carp was included as it was thought to bring wealth.

GREECE. January 1st is an important date in Greece because it is not only the first day of the New Year but it is also St. Basil's Day. St. Basil was one of the forefathers of the Greek Orthodox Church. He is remembered for his kindness and generosity to the poor. He is thought to have died on this date so this is how they honor him. A special New Year's bread is baked with a coin buried in the dough. The first slice is for the Christ child; the second for the father of the household and the third slice is for the house. If the third slice holds the coin, spring will come early that year.

JAPAN. The Japanese New Year Oshogatsu is an important time for family celebrations, when all the shops, factories and offices are closed. The Japanese decorate their homes in tribute to lucky gods. One tradition, kadomatsu, consists of a pine branch symbolizing longevity, a bamboo stalk symbolizing prosperity, and a plum blossom showing nobility.

KOREA. The first day of the lunar New Year is called Sol-nal. This is for families to renew ties and prepare for the new year. New Year's Eve: People place straw scoopers, rakes or sieves on their doors and walls to protect their families from evil spirit in the new year. Everyone dresses in new clothes, the following morning, symbolizing a fresh beginning, and gathers at the home of the eldest male family member. Ancestral memorial rites are held, then the younger generation bows to elders in the family. They wish them good health and prosperity in the coming year.

NORWAY. Norwegians make rice pudding at New Year's and hide one whole almond within. Guaranteed

wealth goes to the person whose serving holds the lucky almond.

PERU. The Peruvian New Year's custom is a spin on the Spanish tradition of eating 12 grapes at the turn of the year. But in Peru, a 13th grape must be eaten to assure good luck.

POLAND. In Poland New Year's Eve is known as St. Sylvester's Eve. This name according to legends arose from Pope Sylvester I who was supposed to have imprisoned a dragon called Leviathan who was supposedly able to escape on the first day of the year 1000, devour the land and the people, and was supposed to have set fire to the heavens. On New Year's Day, when the world did not come to an end, there was great rejoicing and from then on this day was called St. Sylvester's Eve.

PORTUGAL. The Portuguese pick and eat twelve grapes from a bunch as the clock strikes twelve on New Year's Eve. This is done to ensure twelve happy months in the coming year. In Northern Portugal children go caroling from home to home and are given treats and coins. They sing old songs or Janeiro's which is said to bring good luck.

ROME. Romans prepare for the New Year festival which is known as January Kalends by decorating their houses with lights and greenery. The festival lasts for three days, during this time they hold feasts and exchange gifts which were carefully chosen for their luck-bringing properties these include such things as sweets or honey to ensure sweetness and peace as well as Gold, Silver or money for prosperity. Lamps for a year filled with light.

SICILY. An old Sicilian tradition says good luck will come to those who eat lasagna on New Year's Day, but woe if you dine on macaroni, for any other noodle will bring bad luck.

SOUTH AFRICA. In South Africa they ring in the New Year with church bells ringing and gunshots being fired. In the Cape Province, New Year's Day and Second New Year's Day are full of a carnival atmosphere as there are carnivals where people dress in colorful costumes and dance to the sound of drums.

SPAIN. When the clock strikes midnight they eat 12 grapes one with every toll to bring good luck for the next 12 months of the New Year. Sometimes the grapes are washed down with wine. Theater productions and movies are interrupted to carry out this custom.

GLOBAL TRADITIONS (continued)

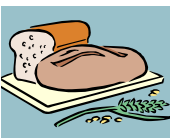
THAILAND. The Thai New Year festival is called Songkran and lasts for three days from 13 to 15 April according to the Gregorian calendar. The customs are many such as people throw water over one another, under the guise of that it will bring good rains in the coming year and all the Buddha statues or images are washed. They visit the monastery to pray and offer gifts of rice, fruit, sweets and other foods for the monks.

VIETNAM. The more popular name for the Vietnamese New Year is Tet - the formal name is Nguyen-dan. Tet is a very important festival because it provides one of the few breaks in the agricultural year, as it falls between the harvesting of the crops and the sowing of the new crops. The Vietnamese prepare in advance for the New Year by cleaning their houses, polishing their copper and silverware and paying off all their debts.

WALES. At the first toll of midnight, the back door is opened and then shut to release the old year and lock out all of its bad luck. Then at the twelfth stroke of the clock, the front door is opened and the New Year is welcomed with all of its luck.

UNITED STATES. The kiss shared at the stroke of midnight in the US is derived from masked balls that have been common throughout history. As tradition has it, the masks symbolize evil spirits from the old year and the kiss is the purification into the new year.

No matter how odd these traditions may seem to us, though, these customs share an optimism that's hard not to appreciate. Out with the old, in with the new!



OUR DAILY BREAD

The first Tuesday of every month is HFUMC day at Our Daily Bread. Each month, on HFUMC Day, (January 4th), we need eight to nine desserts. Please call Peggy Edwards if you would like to sign up to donate a dessert.

FROM ANNA SPILKER: Dick had a dream in November of 2009. He went to the pastor at that time and pastor Chuck told him to get his ducks all in a row and come back. Well it didn't take too long for this to happen. On February 2nd we held our first meeting to start a feeding program for the community. Everyone who attended said that they wanted to help do a meal and what they would prepare.

We chose the name, "Our Daily Bread", and put an article in the newspaper. March 2nd was the first meal which was enjoyed by 80 community people coming in, sitting down and being served. We had food from the Freestore Foodbank in Cincinnati because of doing the Saturday soup and sandwich. Now we were on our way to making things happen with Our Daily Bread. People were calling to give money, give time and give food.

March, April and May was just the beginning. Meals were being served on Tuesdays and Thursdays. On average, 15 - 30 volunteers help each day and 50 - 120 people are served.

In June Community Action came in with a program to "Feed the Children" five days a week. Our Daily Bread stepped up to the plate and served food to the adults who brought the children in. The youth from Turning Point, eighteen teens, came four days a week to help. They did a lot of cleaning in our church - they cleaned out closets, scrubbed walls, floors, and did extensive cleaning in the kitchen. The Turning Point youth also helped with Our Daily Bread serving and cleaning.

In August school started and we all felt lost because everyone went back to school. On one day in August, we served Turning Point's graduation, Our Daily Bread and Feed the Children - that day alone we served over 360 people.

Our Thanksgiving dinner was enjoyed by 166 community people and we had over 18 different groups helping out that day. Typically Hillsboro Christian Academy helps on Tuesdays and the Alternative School assists us on Thursdays. When we look back, we can count on the low end of 1,200 meals each month with the number going up from there. We know God is working in and with each of us to get his work done, and without each of you in our church supporting in the ways that you do, we wouldn't have the energy to do what we do. We never know, but God does, and he carries us through. Now a little on faith.

Dick had a talk with God in prayer one night about having enough food for Our Daily Bread. The next morning we got a phone call from FFA wanting to donate fruit. After that call, the newspaper called to see if they could donate food to Our Daily Bread from their food drive.

We welcome all to come and visit and eat with us. We do have some good cooks!

THANK YOU

We recognize and thank the following people who have served as acolytes, care and concern contacts, home communion persons, greeters, hospitality hosts, liturgists and nursery helpers during 2010. They have made a strong commitment to serve the Lord in this manner.

ACOLYTES:

Allie Branscome	Jacob Lerch
Paul Burton	Jessica Lerch
Steven Burton	Micah Pinney
Chloe Harless	Spencer Rudy
Kennedy Harless	Faye Wooden

CARE AND CONCERN:

Glenn Armstrong	Joan Gale
Opal Armstrong	Helen Hartman
June Bowman	Jackie Hopkins
Don Edwards	Beth McKenzie
Peggy Edwards	Pat Roads
Cindy Eigel	Nola Streeter
Judy Ferguson	Yvonne Tillis

HOME COMMUNION:

Bob Armstrong	Catherine Meade
Donna Armstrong	Pat Meranda
Glenn Armstrong	David Myers
Opal Armstrong	Marilyn Myers
Suzanne Devore	Pam Pinney
Peggy Edwards	Rebecca Pinney
Judy Ferguson	Mary Rudy
Waldo Ferguson	Donna Summers
Charles Griffith	Martha Watkins
Janet Griffith	Tom Watkins
Pat Guenthner	Joe West
Marvin Hakes	Ruth West
Pat Hakes	David Williams
Maxine Kratzer	Lois Williams
Mary Ellen McCarty	Gordon Yuellig
Mike McCarty	

NURSERY HELPERS: Chloe Harless

Barb Colthar	Dee Dee Harless
Suzanne Devore	Kennedy Harless
Anita Foley	Susan Kirk
Megan Gaines	Laura McCray
Joan Gale	Joe Rudy
Dodie Garrett	Judy Rudy

HOSPITALITY:

Craig Burton	Friendly Helpers Circle
Nancy Burton	Catherine Meade
Dan Walker	Men's Share Group
Kristin Walker	Pat Roads
David Pinney	Jill Reffner
Pam Pinney	Sunday Evening Small Group
Rebecca Pinney	Martha Watkins
Opal Armstrong	Wednesday AM Circle
Don Edwards Jr.	Linda Welder
Suanne Edwards	Ruth West
Judy Ferguson	

GREETERS:

Bob Armstrong	Maxine Kratzer
Donna Armstrong	Brenda Lieurance
Glenn Armstrong	David Lieurance
Opal Armstrong	Mary Ellen McCarty
Earl Burnett	Mike McCarty
Sharon Burnett	Alan McKenzie
Carolyn Chambers	Beth McKenzie
Lowell Chambers	Catherine Meade
Bambi Colliver	Pat Meranda
Emilie Dunnagan	Duane Michael
Mike Dunnagan	Irene Michael
Don Edwards	Liddy Newman
Peggy Edwards	Russ Newman
Judy Ferguson	Betty Powell
Waldo Ferguson	Junior Price
Allen Frump	Pat Price
Sue Frump	Eric Rhoads
Joan Gale	Kathy Rhoads
Mary Gibler	Pat Roads
Virgil Gibler	Anna Spilker
Kevin Greer	Dick Spilker
Kristy Greer	Nola Streeter
Dan Grieshaber	Danielle Thompson
Jenny Grieshaber	Eric Thompson
Charlie Griffith	Nick Thompson
Janet Griffith	Sue Thompson
Pat Guenthner	Barb Tira
Marvin Hakes	Jim Tira
Pat Hakes	Jolene Walker
Helen Hartman	Ray Walker
Ed Hiestand	Martha Watkins
Helen Hiestand	Tom Watkins
Betty Johnson	Joe West
Ozzie Johnson	Ruth West
Jerry Kirk	David Williams
Susan Kirk	Lois Williams

Continued on next page.

LITURGISTS:

Bill Alexander	Mike McCarty
Donna Armstrong	Pat Meranda
Peggy Edwards	Pat Roads
Judy Ferguson	Linda Russell
Waldo Ferguson	Steve Vance
David Grover	Martha Watkins
Marvin Hakes	Tom Watkins
Margaret Horst	Linda Welder

Note: "Music Volunteers" will be recognized in the February Tidings. All of the names listed under "THANK YOU" were obtained from the 2010 Tidings. If your name has been accidentally omitted from this list, please notify the church office. We want to recognize you!

FOR THE CHILDREN . . . Lois Anne Williams

The Treasure Hunt

Sara greeted her friend Kate as they came into their school together. "I've been wanting to invite you and your family to attend church with our family. Since my Sunday School class is going to have a treasure hunt, I think you would like to join our class on this fun adventure." Kate declared. "That sounds great. I'll ask my mom if we can come with you this Sunday." "Good. My parents said we could pick you up. I hope you can go with us." "I do too," Sara said excitedly.

When Sara arrived home from school she asked her mom if they could attend church with Kate and her parents. She told her about the treasure hunt.

"How nice of Kate to invite us. Your dad will be playing golf with his buddies and it is my morning to serve them all brunch before they leave for the golf course. You may certainly go this week and I will plan to go with you the next Sunday. The treasure hunt sounds like a lot of fun," her mom assured Sara.

Sara hopped from one foot to the other in excitement as she exclaimed, "I wonder what the treasure could be. You get me everything I need or want, Mom, so it isn't that I need anything. I just think it will be fun to hunt for the treasure and find out what it is. Kate said she would help me in the hunt if I want her to."

"I'm glad you appreciate all we do for you, Sara. I can also see what fun that treasure hunt will be. I'll be

happy to hear all about it when you get home Sunday. And I will be eager to attend church with you and Kate's family soon. I wish your dad would come with us, but he is away on business a lot and can't play golf as often as he'd like."

"I know, Mom. I wish Dad didn't have to travel so much. I don't get to do the things I would like to do with him. Other kids tell about things they do with both of their parents and I wish it could be like that for us," Sara said with a sigh.

"I often feel that way too, Sara, but I know your dad is doing it in order to take care of us and give us everything. We want to be grateful to him for what he does for us," her mom said with a bit of sadness in her voice.

"Don't worry, Mom, I'll always be grateful to both you and Dad for all that I have. I just want you both to be as happy as I am that I'm going to church with Kate and her parents this Sunday," Sara said as she turned to take her school things to her room. "Oh...and I'll tell you all I know about the treasure hunt when I get home on Sunday," she added with an excited giggle as she hurried from the kitchen.

Sara's mom could not remember when she had seen her daughter so excited. She determined that the next week she would go with her and Kate's family to the church that had already given Sara such happiness. What, she wondered, could be this treasure at the end of the hunt. (to be continued).

SIGNS FROM GOD

As seen on billboards, church lawn signs and bulletin boards nationwide.

IF GOD IS YOUR COPILOT
MAYBE IT'S TIME TO
SWITCH SEATS.

OUR MOTTO:
SOUR GRAPES MAKE
LOUSY WINE!

WHAT PART OF THOU
SHALT NOT DON'T YOU
UNDERSTAND? - GOD



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