

The Pine Chips

Pine Island United Methodist Church



Volume 84, Issue 9—December, 2011

Pastor Carolyn's Conundrums:

How many of us make New Year's resolutions? Traditionally most people do. I suppose the next question would be how many of us break them within the first week?

This year, I would like to issue a challenge for us to make a resolution concerning our relationship with Christ. This can be as simple as adjusting our thinking around our usual resolutions: "I want to lose weight... so I can be the best that God wants me to be." "I want to exercise... so I have the energy to serve God." It is a great practice for making us mindful of God in our midst always.

John Wesley came up with an entire service to make/re-affirm our Covenant with God. I would like to share a prayer from that service: the Covenant Prayer in the Wesleyan Tradition (UMH #607):

*I am no longer my own, but thine.
Put me to what thou wilt, rank me with whom thou wilt.
Put me to doing, put me to suffering.
Let me be employed by thee or laid aside for thee,
exalted for thee or brought low by thee.
Let me be full, let me be empty.
Let me have all things, let me have nothing.
I freely and heartily yield all things
to thy pleasure and disposal.
And now, O glorious and blessed God,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
thou art mine, and I am thine. So be it.
And the covenant which I have made on earth,
let it be ratified in heaven. Amen.*

We will be starting a sermon Series on Sunday January 1st: Bread, Bath & Beyond. The new year always brings opportunity to move beyond our limitations... to find new beginnings and be better than we were before. In this series we are called to remember that the most basic transforming experiences of our faith—communion and baptism—are the starting points for life "beyond" our limitations. Let's make 2012 a year of amazing transformations—for our lives, for our community, for our world! May we live beyond our wants, beyond our fears from death into life!

Happy New Year from my family to yours!

Pastor Carolyn

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Pastor
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Pastor Carolyn's Office Hours & Contact Info:

Monday, Tuesday & Thursday Mornings
In The Church Office
Wednesday Morning at
Better Brew 9-12 Noon

e-mail : pastorc@pitel.net
Cell - 507-208-5842
Feel free to call her cell if you can't reach her at the Church Office.

www.piumc.org

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People Involved in Uniting together for Missions and Christ



JOY BASKET

MISSIONS L.O.V.E. PROJECT THANK YOU:

We want to thank all who supported the "L.O.V.E." Project 2011. Since 2007, we have been on the Pine Island United Fund list and have received substantial financial support. Also, thanks to those who support Toys for Tots around town or through the Pine Island School which supplied us with the toys we gift the children we serve. A BIG thanks to our youth (Allison Hogstad, Ashley Westlake, Collin Murray, Kodey Weis, Madeline, Wes, & Ella Sorum) who provided us with helping hands on Nov. 19 and/or Dec. 16 with organizing the gifts of food, clothing, toiletries and wrapping toys. Thanks to Margie Andrist for her time and talent in making mittens for each of the children we serve. We appreciate Vicky Mancilman, Brian Hogstad, Rick & Diane Murray, Dean & Jen Sorum for their assistance and supervision on Dec. 16. This year we served 18 local families (20 Adults/ 24 Children) so they could have a joyful Christmas. Thanks again for being part of this local mission! God bless you all!!

Shirley Weis and Joni Brooks

Co-chairs "L.O.V.E." Project

(Lots of Volunteer Effort)



THANK YOU!

With the generosity of all, we have saved 214 Lives from Malaria which comes out to just over \$2,140

Thank You Congregation! Thank You Friends! Thank You Relatives!

We are so grateful and thankful for you prayers, your help, the food and goodies you brought , the gifts you gave in memorials, the visits and support during the month of November with the loss of my mother Leora Strieff and my husband Duane Kundert, God works in wondrous ways at times like these. God is great all the time! God bless you all!

The Kundert family: Bonnie, Kathy, Kasi, Susan, Kevin , Jon and their families.

The Avery's: Betty, Evan, Jeff, Kristi, Kelly, Janelle and their families.



Vision Facilitation Retreat
Saturday, February 11, 2012
10:00 AM - 3:00 PM
At Ironwood Springs Christian Ranch



We do need reservations to prepare the space and the meal. Please contact the church office to reserve your space by January 31, 2012! A donation of \$8 for lunch. If you have any allergies or any other special food needs please contact the church office.

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THIS AND THAT

DID YOU FIND?

There were many who found it but Dorothy Hervey was the first to find the word "pasture" in last month's Pine Chips. The word to look for this month is "**ratified.**" If you find it in Pine Chips, please email or call the Church Office as to where you found it. The winner will be treated to coffee at Better Brew (or an alternative beverage if you do not like coffee) with Pastor Carolyn.



PINE ISLAND FOOD SHELF: January is Pasta Sunday for the Pine Island Sharing Shelves. The Sharing Shelves offers people in need the opportunity to shop and choose food on a weekly basis. Sharing Shelves also serves families in emergencies. The Church Office lists other needs on the Bulletin Board.

Missions Corner By Lynda Jo Nordstrom

Members of the Mission

Committee meet to discuss various mission opportunities that we have as a church, and to decide what the focus will be for each month. Each month, the funds collected in the Missions Box located at the back of the sanctuary are designated to go to a select mission group. The money collected in the Missions box in December 2011 went to Heifer International. Thanks to everyone who supported the purchase of an animal for Heifer International! The money collected in the **Missions Box for January 2012 will go toward Pine Island Ministerial Association** here in Pine Island. This mission provides funds for the clergy of Pine Island to use for those in need locally in Pine Island, if needed.

Other organizations that PIUMC supports include:
Interfaith Hospitality Network (IHN). The next time that PIUMC hosts IHN is October 24 - October 31. <http://www.ihn-greater-rochester.org/>;
Pine Island Sharing Shelves <http://cc.pineislandmn.com/commyservice7662.asp>;
Moms in Touch International <http://www.momsintouch.org/>;
Pine Island Lions Club <http://www.pineislandlions.org/>;
UMCOR <http://new.gbgm-umc.org/umcor/about/>;
Operation Christmas Child <http://www.operationchristmaschild.org.uk/>;
Heifer International <http://www.heifer.org>

FROM THE CHURCH

VISIONARY RETREAT: Don't forget the church wide Visionary Retreat on February 11, 2012 at the Ironwood Springs Christian Ranch.

APPORTIONMENTS: There is a proud history here at Pine Island, of paying the apportionments in full every year. This year we have paid just over \$13,107. There is an outstanding balance of **\$10,265.76**. If you are able to, we ask that you give some extra money by the end of the year to pay toward our apportionments. Will you help us continue to pay our apportionments in full?

GIVING ENVELOPES: Be sure to pick up your envelopes on table in the back of the church. If your name is missing please call Cathy 507-356-4553 or e-mail pi-umc@pitel.net. Also if you see a name listed of a neighbor or friend please pick it up and drop it off for them, thank you.

CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE at the Parsonage: The Westlake's are inviting you to their home. We would love for you to come and join us on January 8th, from 3-5pm, for food and fellowship. For those with allergies, we do have cats and a dog, but they will be kept in the basement. Looking forward to seeing you there.

PINE ISLAND LIONS will be serving a chicken and biscuit dinner in the school cafeteria on Sunday, January 8, 2012 from 11 AM to 1PM. This is a benefit for the eagles Cancer Telethon and Lions projects. Questions please call 507.356.4446 or cell 507.696.4294
Thank you Don Vang

COFFEE will be available before church, 8:30 AM in the back of the Sanctuary starting January 1, 2012

YOUR POINSETTIAS AT THE CHURCH are available for pick-up if you want to bring them home.

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GREETERS

January 1 Don Vang
January 8 Mary & Wade Bluemer
January 15 Lisa Beyer
January 22 Jane & Dennis Bailey
January 29 Jon & Kathy Richardson

USHERS FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY

Miller, Sorum, Simpson & Lohmann Families

LITURGISTS

January 1 Chris Dietz
January 8 Margie Berg
January 15 Greg Nordstrom
January 22 Denise Weis
January 29 Bill Brueck

CHILDREN'S SERMON

January 1 Pam Shaw
January 8 Dean Murray
January 15 Pam Shaw
January 22 Dean Murray
January 29 Stump the Pastor

NURSERY

January 1 Jennifer Jesseph
January 8 Pam Shaw
January 15 Traci Finley
January 22 Jennifer Jesseph
January 29 Pam Shaw

JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES*

Thomas & Cathy Grannis January 18
Richard Moulton January 20
Ken & Tammy Markham January 24
Bill & Sherry Beckman January 26

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS*

Brenda Kehoe January 1
Tyler Troolin January 1
Pat Mapel January 2
Lonny McKay January 4
Katie Sorensen January 4
Jo Canniff January 7
Joni Brooks January 8
Shirley Weis January 11
Greg Nordstrom January 15
Adam Gillard January 16
Ken Markham January 16
Carol Pederson January 20
Mary Archer January 24
Mark Radke January 24
Grace Murray January 25
Theresa Poncelet January 25
Naomi Kvittem-Murray January 26
Tena Buell January 28
Nicole McKay January 28
Helen Durst January 29
Kailey Sowanford January 31

**Note: if we have missed your birthday or anniversary please contact Cathy at the church office.*

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

March 4th Kids sing in worship
April 1st (Palm Sunday)
Easter Walk through Sunday School rooms
May 13th (Mother's Day)
Kids sing in worship
May 20th Last Day of Sunday School

ICE FISHING TRIP!!

When: Feb. 4 and 5.
Where: Garrison, MN.
More details as things are finalized.
If interested, talk to Brian Weis, Carl Mancilman, or Jesse Frericks.
We plan on a lot of fun, good food, fellowship and hungry fish!!



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Christ*

We're on the web

www.piumc.org

Phone: 507-356-4553

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JANUARY SCRIPTURES

January 1

New Year's Day
Epiphany Sunday/Communion
Scripture: Rev 21:1-6a
Message: Bread

January 8

Baptism of the Lord Sunday/Choir
Scripture: Acts 19:1-7
Message: Bath

January 15

2nd Sunday after Epiphany/Choir
Scripture: John 1:43-51
Message: Beyond Belief

January 22

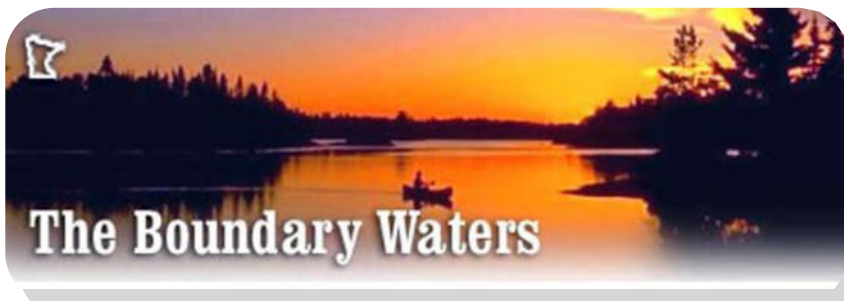
3rd Sunday after Epiphany/Choir
Scripture: Mark 1:14-20
Message: Beyond the Horizon

January 29

4th Sunday after Epiphany
Scripture: Mark: 1:21-28
Message: Beyond the Boundaries



~~BREAD~~ **BED BATH & BEYOND®**



The Youth are interested in going on a trip to the BWCA in the summer of 2012. Any adults interested/willing to help plan and/or chaperone this trip, please let Pastor Carolyn know.