



St. John's Presbyterian Church

The Carillon

Volume XXI, No. 12

December 2011

**ST. JOHN'S
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**

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Reno, NV 89509
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Christmas Eve Candlelight Services

O Holy God, we hear the story of shepherds and magi, of maiden and carpenter, of prophets and angels, and we too come to Bethlehem for a blessing. You are born in our hearts because you have chosen the weakness of our bodies for your birth. We are filled with love because you have taken upon yourself our humanity; we are filled with

hope because you have offered your Spirit, your life, and your light; we are filled with faith because all that is meek and lowly and humble in us and in creation becomes holy this night. Our salvation has come into this holy time, and we say together, "Glory to God in the highest and on earth, peace and goodwill to all."



Christmas Eve Services:

- 5:00 p.m.—Family Candlelight Service (nursery care provided)
- 9:00 p.m.—Traditional Candlelight Communion Worship Service



Blue Christmas Service on December 21st

On Wednesday, December 21st, at 7:00 p.m., there will be a Blue Christmas worship service. This brief service is one of prayer and meditation, of Scripture and music. It is a respite from the noisy chaos of the holiday season. It is a

time for us to remember those whom we miss, a time to seek comfort and solace, a time to reflect on the meaning of the gift of the Christ child. The Rev. Jackie Leonard, Rev. Susan Taylor, and Rev. Dr. Baughman will be officiating.

Advent Candle Lighting

November 27th—Bev Dyas and Elaine Lewis

December 4th—Doug and Sharon Usedom

December 11th—Gary and Laurie Oswald

December 18th—Bob and Joan Jeffers

December 24th— 5:00 p.m.—Nelita Resullar; Kim, Beth, and Ronnie Kollman
9:00 p.m.—Ralph and Barbara Voss



Advent



Thursday Prayer Group at St. John's

"Is prayer your steering wheel or your spare tire?" (Corrie ten Boom, *Clippings From My Notebook*)

Members and friends of St. John's meet Thursdays from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. for prayer and a bring-your-own brown

bag lunch in the Geneva Room. Join us as we support our Church and its parishioners in prayer.

Sunday Child Care Reminder!

Infant care through two years of age is available Sunday mornings during the worship service. The Nursery is located in D-100, across the hall from

the Geneva Room, heralded by the 'Nursery' banner outside the 'D' wing doors. St. John's Nursery Care Directors, Erma Scott and Brooke

Dutton, as well as trained youth, are ready to take care of your little ones. (*The Nursery will also be open during the 5:00 p.m. Christmas Eve service.*)



Communion Sunday, December 4th, 2011

The Holy Eucharist will be observed on the second Sunday of Advent, December 4th, and will be offered to those who are unable to attend worship by the Elders and

Deacons. If you know someone who may need Home Communion brought to them, please contact Marian Stroh (825-1224) or call the Church office (826-0990).

NOTE: The small cups in the center of the bread trays contain gluten-free wafers. Also, only non-alcoholic grape juice is served.



The Carillon

A monthly newsletter of:

St. John's Presbyterian Church
1070 W. Plumb Lane
Reno, NV 89509
775-826-0990
Fax: 775-826-0994

A written copy of articles, releases, and items to be published must be turned in to the Church office or submitted electronically to the Editor (MS Word.doc preferred) by the 20th of each

month, for the following issue.

If you are not receiving *The Carillon* by mail and would like to, contact the Church office at 826-0990. Also, please advise us if you would like your name removed from the mailing list.

The Carillon as well as the weekly bulletin are also available on the Church website at:

www.stjohnschurch.org

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Numerous volunteers, without whose help this publication wouldn't be in your hands.

“Christmas Joy Through Giving” by Pastor Tom Baughman

Before we know it, Christmas will be here. If there is one phrase that sums up Christmas for me, it is "giving generously". First of all, it is giving in response to God who gave us Jesus, our Lord and Savior. Michael Slaughter has recently written a book with an intriguing title: *Christmas Is Not Your Birthday*. For many people Christmas is self-focused. Children can't wait until Christmas morning, when all the family gathers around the Christmas tree to open gifts. We often act as if it were our birthday instead of Jesus' birthday. In reality the true meaning of Christmas is more about giving than receiving. We are reminded of this meaning when we go shopping during the Advent season and see and hear the familiar Salvation Army bell ringers outside the entrances of our favorite stores, encouraging us to give generously, so that those who have very little might be blessed.

The Apostle Paul lifts up an inspiring example of human generosity and God's grace to us in Jesus Christ in 2 Corinthians 8 and 9. These two chapters challenge us to trust

God by meeting ministry needs beyond ourselves, our family, and our church walls. For the Apostle Paul, generous giving was a matter of spiritual life and death. Paul vigorously entreated the Corinthian church to give generously to the needs of Christians in Jerusalem.

The Psalmist (Psalm 24:1) reminds us that what we often consider to be our own really belongs to God. In fact, everyone and everything that exists belongs to God. "The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it, the world, and those who live in it." This verse reminds us, because we often forget, that we are not owners but stewards of all that God has given us. Perhaps during this Advent season it would help us to prepare for Christ's coming and birth in our lives by asking the Holy Spirit to loosen the tight grip that ownership has on us, so that we can become more faithful stewards of all of life, trusting God to whom we belong.

Personally, I am inspired when Paul tells of Macedonians giving beyond their means in the midst of affliction and poverty

(2 Corinthians 8:2–3). He is not so much affirming the generosity of the Macedonians, as he is affirming the grace of God that has been granted to them (8:1)—their giving is an example of God's grace in action.

One of my childhood memories is that of my grandfather, who always gave his grandchildren some money to put in the offering plate on Sunday mornings. It was his subtle way to encourage us to be faithful and generous givers. I will always remember not so much his sense of obligation or responsibility in this weekly routine when we visited him, but his great sense of joy. He was delighted in giving and enabling us to give.

The Apostle Paul is not asking the Corinthians to give as if they were the initiators of generosity. Their giving is a response to God's abundant provision for them. They could be generous, because God had been generous to them. "And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always

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“And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work.”

(2 Corinthians 9:8)



News Highlights From St. John's Session

St. John's Session held its regular monthly meeting on November 15th, 2011. Following are some highlights from the meeting.

• Elected the following Elders to serve as members of the entities indicated:

• 2012 Session Committee Moderators:
 Building and Grounds—John Dutton;
 Christian Education—Lynn McLaughlin;
 Fellowship and Nurture—Elaine York;
 Mission—Ryan Hansen;
 Personnel—Stan Peck;
 Stewardship—Ken Meyer;
 Welcoming and Evangelism—Rolando Magdamo;
 Worship—David Stover;
 SJCC—Ann Anderson; and
 Nominating—Susan Day.

• 2012 Session Committee Vice-Moderators:
 Building and Grounds—Richard Priest;
 Christian Education—Richard Priest;
 Fellowship and Nurture—Joan Jeffers;
 Mission—Mike Pierce;
 Personnel—Elaine York;
 Stewardship—Cathy Perdue;
 Welcoming and Evangelism—Anne Sigurdson;
 Worship—Joan Jeffers;
 SJCC—Susan Day; and
 Nominating—Lynn McLaughlin.

Thank you for your

service.

• Approved the Worship Committee's request for eleven-year-old Oliver Leitner's violin recital on Saturday, December 3rd, 2011, at 1:00 p.m.

• Approved the Nominating Committee's request for a 'Called Congregational Meeting,' to elect officers for 2012 Deacons, on Sunday, December 11th, 2011, following worship service.

• Mission's annual "Project Restart" Holiday Food Bag program will run to December 18th.

• The Christmas Cantata will be presented on Sunday, December 18th, 2011, during the 10:30 a.m. worship service.

• The 'Blue Christmas' Worship Service will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, December 21st, 2011, the Longest Night of the Year.

• The Christmas Eve 5:00 p.m. Candlelight Service will be St. John's Family Service, and the 9:00 p.m. Candlelight Service will be a Communion Service.

• Presbyterian Women reported there are 55,000 refugees in the Fresno area being ministered to by FIRM.

• St. John's Session recognizes the service of the

outgoing class of Officers: Deacons Suzanne Griffith, Reena Khan, Ron Scovill, Mary Sherman, Marian Stroh, and Amy Wiloughby; and Elders George Griffith, Rolando Magdamo, Lynn McLaughlin, Richard Priest, and Elaine York.

Vital Statistics as of press time for the December 2011 issue of *The Carillon*.

• **Active Members:** 363 members in 239 households as of November 15th, 2011.

• **Communion:** 175 communicants were served on Sunday, October 2nd, 2011. (174 were served at the 10:30 a.m. worship service and one homebound was taken Communion.)

• **Baptism:** The following child was baptized on Sunday, November 20th, 2011: Sumner Timothy Richter, son of Timothy and Amber Richter, born March 15th, 2011.

• **Deaths:** The death of former member Betty Jane Moore, on Friday, November 4th, 2011, has been recorded.

• **Births and Weddings:** No Births or Weddings have been recorded since the last issue of *The Carillon*.

Stewardship Report

First of all, a big THANK YOU to all those who have turned in commitment forms. These are a tangible expression of your willingness to serve God and the St. John's community. In practical terms, your time and talent forms are useful in helping committees and other organizations identify potential volunteers. Your financial

giving forms, when totaled by the Financial Secretary, give the Stewardship Committee and the Session a basis for estimating income as they prepare a budget for the next year. But, more fundamentally, your commitments are a means of spiritual discipline and spiritual growth. Your giving of yourself reinforces your faith and membership in

the body of Christ.

For those of you who have not yet completed your commitment forms, please consider prayerfully how you can support the ministry and mission of St. John's with your time, your talents, and your money. Your participation is important to all of us, and it is a benefit to you in your life of



faith. Submitting the form is not essential, but it can be a significant affirmation of your faithfulness.

Peace be with you all in this Advent season—
Ken Meyer, Moderator

Table 1. General Fund Balance (Month Ending October 31st, 2011)

	Actual	Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Cumulative
Beginning Balance					72,475.52
Receipts	34,651.92	31,843.26	304,470.65	318,432.60	304,470.65
Transfers & designated receipts	5,986.46	-	80,911.90	-	80,911.90
Supported disbursements *	(5,986.46)	-	(80,911.90)	-	(80,911.90)
Disbursements	(30,872.71)	(36,001.93)	(334,253.63)	(383,693.37)	(334,253.63)
Ending Balance	\$3,779.21	(\$4,158.67)	(\$29,782.98)	(\$65,260.77)	\$42,692.54

* Expenditures that are supported by either revenues or contributions; not part of the General Fund budget

Table 2. Capital Improvement Fund (Month Ending October 31st, 2011)

	Actual	Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Cumulative
Beginning Balance					307.55
Receipts	5,084.19	5,303.69	49,423.40	53,036.90	49,423.40
Transfers In	-	-	8,658.04	-	8,658.04
Disbursements	(4,667.44)	(4,667.44)	(56,036.44)	(50,383.40)	(56,036.44)
Ending Balance	\$416.75	\$636.25	\$2,045.00	\$2,653.50	\$2,352.55



Christmas Caring From the Deacons

Every year at Christmas and Easter, the Deacons come together to assemble gift bags or baskets for members of the church who have a difficult time getting to church. This is one of the acts of caring that the Deacons perform in ministering to the congregation. The holiday gift bags may include such things as a small plant, ornaments, chocolate, cereal bars, fruit, cookies, and cards made by the children.

During "Advent"ure Night on November 20th, the Deacons hosted a table with clear glass ornaments that people could decorate inside with swirls of paint. Last year we asked visitors to our table to decorate an ornament for our Christmas bags in addition to one they made to take home. It worked so well that we did it again for "Advent"ure Night this year; if you decorated an

ornament for the gift bags, you helped to provide some Christmas cheer to one of our homebound members. Although the Deacons do many things to help demonstrate caring for the congregation, putting together and then delivering these Christmas gift bags are fun ways to show that we are thinking of our members.

In fact, this is one of the tasks of the Pastoral Care Committee.

Pastoral Care Committee—

- Maintains a list of members who have particular pastoral care needs (typically those who are isolated by age, health, or other circumstances, and who cannot attend worship regularly).
- Assigns Deacons to be paired with those in need to establish regular contact. This can include personal visits as well as contact by phone and mail.

- Helps ensure contact is being made and information regarding those in need is appropriately shared with pastors and the Church office (e.g., change in health status or address change).

- Organizes the Deacons' preparation of Easter and Christmas gift bags for those on the Pastoral Care list. This is one of the Deacons' favorite activities.

- Confers with the Church office and Administrative Assistant regarding those in need in addition to those on the Pastoral Care list.

Keep Deacons Informed—

Remember, Deacons need your eyes and ears to help them keep track of people who need our service, especially some holiday cheer this Christmas. (St. John's Deacons are listed on page 9 of *The Carillon*.)



Time to Place Your Order for Advent Poinsettias

Now is the time to place your orders for live poinsettias that will decorate our sanctuary during the Advent season. Order forms will be in your Sunday bulletin, or you may call the Church office to

place your order. The cost is \$7.00 per plant, and payment should accompany each order. If you wish to give a plant in memory of a loved one, place this information on your order form. The

poinsettias will be in the sanctuary Sunday, December 18th, through the Epiphany of the Lord (Friday, January 6th, 2012). Afterward, donors may pick up their plants in Martin Hall.

Missions Committee

Upcoming Giving Opportunities—

A brochure that lists and describes St. John's Mission Partners is being prepared. December Mission support opportunities include the local Project Restart and the PC (USA) Christmas Joy offering. Our Project ReStart goal is to provide 50 bags of mostly food with some personal hygiene items for singles in need of assistance. A flyer listing non-perishable food and other items is available in the narthex and

Martin Hall. For no more than \$50, a double-bagged collection will provide much needed subsistence for the nearly 60 needy individuals we have on our list. The bag you fill should be placed on the long table near the door to the narthex in Martin Hall. They will be delivered to Project ReStart on Monday, December 19th.

A Mission Focus bulletin insert from the PC(USA) in December will provide details on the Christmas

Joy offering.

Missions Committee Meeting—

The Missions Committee will meet on Monday, January 9th, at 5:30 p.m. in the Clawson Memorial Library (no meeting in December). If you are interested, please join us at our next meeting. For more information, call George Griffith, Missions Committee Moderator (829-0197).



Project ReStart

Holiday Greetings From the St. John's Children's Center

St. John's Children's Center was very busy with Thanksgiving feasts in November, even though the Honey Bear and Panda feast was small due to the fact it was the day of the Caughlin Fire. The fire affected many of our families as well as their friends and neighbors. We offered a time for silence to pray for everyone in our community and for the school families.

Children here at the Center will be singing for the Barnacles and Presbyterian Women's lunches in December. Everyone enjoys these events, and our children love singing

Christmas songs. Santa will be visiting here on December 20th for the children to have their pictures taken. That will be a fun day.

The Center has again adopted two families from the Salvation Army. We will have a list posted at the front desk for families to see what our 'Adopt a Family' needs. We supply them with toys, clothing, and food items, so they will also have a Christmas and so our children learn the true meaning of Christmas and sharing.

The staff also have a special, fun week during this

season. We have 'Secret Santa,' and each pick a name. During the week we give fun little gifts each day, and at the end of the week we have a dinner. We will be going to Mi Casa this year. The fun part is everyone is trying to figure out who their Secret Santa is—HO, HO, HO!

As we prepare to celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ, may you and your family have a joyful holiday season. All of us at St. John's Children's Center wish you a Merry Christmas!

Miss Donna, Director





St. John's Presbyterian Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Clawson Library Hours Sundays—10:00 a.m. to Noon (closed during worship service) Wednesdays—9:30 a.m. to Noon						
4 8:30 am Chancel Choir 9:15 am Sunday School for All Ages 10:30 am Worship and Communion Service 11:45 am Geneva Choir 5:00 pm Estimoteur Bell Choir 6:00 pm Bells of the Cross 6:00 pm Youth Dinner 6:30 pm Youth Connection Intergeneration Mission Trip Silent Auction Fundraiser	5 9:30 am AAlnon 9:30 am Together Time 3:30 pm Girl Scouts 479 6:15 pm Meditation Group 6:30 pm Bella Voice Rehearsal	6 11:00 pm AAlnon 6:00 pm Sierra Highlanders Pipe Band 6:30 pm Tutoring 8 pm Worship Comm.	7 8:00 am Men's Bible Study 10 am Presbyterian Women Coordinating Team 2:45 pm Elementary Together Time 5:30 pm Wednesday We Feed and Intergeneration Mission Trip Silent Auction Fundraiser Wrap-Up 6:30 pm Stewardship	8 11:30 am Prayer Group 4:15 pm Sierra Nevada Children's Choir 6:30 pm Tutoring 7:00 pm Building and Grounds Comm.	9 1:00 pm Rebecca Circle 4:00 pm Cub Scouts 10/Den 5 6:00 pm Flipper Mariners Christmas Dinner	10 3:00 pm Sierra Nevada Children's Choir Holiday Concert 7:30 pm Bella Voice Holiday Concert
11 8:30 am Chancel Choir 9:15 am Sunday School for All Ages 10:15 am Hymn Sing 10:30 am Worship Service 11:30 am Called Congregational Meeting—for the purpose of electing Deacons 11:45 am Geneva Choir 5:00 pm Estimoteur Bell Choir 6:00 pm Bells of the Cross 6:00 pm Youth Dinner 6:30 pm Youth Connection Blood Pressure Sunday	12 9:30 am AAlnon 12:30 pm SJ Book Club 5:30 pm Christian Education Comm. 6:15 pm Meditation Group 6:30 pm Bella Voice Rehearsal 7:00 pm The Compassionate Friends of Reno	13 9:30 am Together Time 1:00 pm AAlnon 1:30 pm Martha Circle 6:00 pm Sierra Highlanders Pipe Band 5:30 pm Personnel Comm. 6:30 pm Tutoring 7:00 pm Deacons	14 8:00 am Men's Bible Study 11:30 am Presbyterian Women's Luncheon 2:45 pm Elementary Together Time 4:45 pm Pack 10/Den 6	15 9:30 am Mary Morning Circle 11:30 am Prayer Group 4:15 pm Sierra Nevada Children's Choir 6:00 pm Troop 10 6:30 pm Tutoring	16 1:00 pm Rebecca Circle 4:00 pm Cub Scouts 10/Den 5 6:00 pm Flipper Mariners Christmas Dinner	17 11:00 am Christmas Pageant Rehearsal
18 8:30 am Chancel Choir 9:15 am Sunday School for All Ages 10:30 am Worship and Christmas Cantata Service 11:45 am Geneva Choir 4:00 pm Discipleship Christmas Celebration 6:00 pm Anchors Aweigh Christmas Party	19 Project ReStart Bags Due 9:30 am AAlnon 9:30 am Together Time 3:30 pm Girl Scouts 479 6:15 pm Meditation Group 6:30 pm Bella Voice Rehearsal	20 Carillon Submissions Due 1:00 pm AAlnon 1:00 pm AAlnon 6:00 pm Sierra Highlanders Pipe Band 6:30 pm Tutoring 7:00 pm Session	21 2:45 pm Elementary Together Time 7:00 pm Blue Christmas Service	22 First Day of Winter 11:30 am Prayer Group 4:15 pm Sierra Nevada Children's Choir	23	24 Christmas Eve 5:00 pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Family Service 9:00 pm Christmas Eve Candlelight and Communion Service
25 Christmas Day 10:30 am Christmas Day Worship Service	26 9:30 am AAlnon 6:15 pm Meditation Group	27 1:00 pm AAlnon 6:00 pm Sierra Highlanders Pipe Band	28	29 11:30 am Prayer Group	30 12:00 pm Senior Singles Luncheon	31 New Year's Eve

Upcoming Events at St. John's

- **December 4th - 7th** — Intergenerational Mission Trip Silent Auction Fundraiser
- **December 7th** — Wednesday We Feed and Mission Trip Silent Auction
- **December 10th** — Sierra Nevada Children's Choir Concert (3:00 p.m.)
Bella Voce Women's Ensemble Concert (7:30 p.m.)
- **December 14th** — Presbyterian Women's Christmas Luncheon
- **December 18th** — Christmas Cantata in Tribute to Pastor Emeritus Bill Barrett
- **December 19th** — Project Restart Bags Due in Martin Hall
- **December 21st** — Blue Christmas Worship Service
- **December 24th** — 5:00 p.m.—Family Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
9:00 p.m.—Christmas Eve Communion Candlelight Service
- **January 7th, 2012** — Un-Hanging of the Greens



2011 Church Officers

Elders:

Ann Anderson
Susan Day
John Dutton
George Griffith
Ryan Hansen
Joan Jeffers
Rolando Magdamo
Lynn McLaughlin
Ken Meyer
Cathryn Perdue
Richard Priest
Anne Sigurdson
David Stover
Ralph Voss
Elaine York

Clerk of Session:

Ray Bledsoe

Deacons:

Jan Peck (Moderator)
Caroline Asikainen
Elsie Baughman
Erin Etnyre
Suzanne Griffith
Dan Hansen
Reena Khan
Peggy Meyer
Kat Parker
Pam Ramseth
June Rosta
Ron Scovill
Mary Sherman
Marian Stroh
Barbara Voss
Carolyn Williamson
Amy Willoughby
Maria Winchester

2011 Session Committee Moderators:

Building & Grounds—John Dutton (626-4455)
Children's Center—Ann Anderson (691-7602)
Christian Education—Joan Jeffers (827-4355)
Fellowship & Nurture—Elaine York (624-2696)
Mission—George Griffith (829-0197)
Nominating—Joan Jeffers (827-4355)
Personnel—David Stover (856-4823)
Stewardship & Finance—Ken Meyer (453-1957)
Welcoming & Evangelism—Rolando Magdamo
(425-2615)
Worship—Ralph Voss (852-9141)

December Participating Elder Assignments

December 4th —	10:30 a.m.	Elaine York
December 11th —	10:30 a.m.	Ann Anderson
December 18th —	10:30 a.m.	Susan Day
December 25th —	10:30 a.m.	Joan Jeffers

“Christmas Joy Through Giving” by Pastor Tom Baughman

(continued from p.3)

having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work” (2 Corinthians 9:8). Giving generously is a matter of trusting God. This argument is striking, because it is not the way we would normally go about asking for money. We usually focus on the needs of people in desperate straits, appealing to the compassion of the givers. But nowhere in these chapters does Paul describe the dire need of the Jerusalem Christians, thus tugging at the heartstrings of the Corinthians. Rather, his appeal for generosity is based upon God’s compassion. We are called to give, because Christ gave himself for us. God is our motivation and inspiration for giving generously.

In fact, generosity benefits the giver: “You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us” (2 Corinthians 9:11). Nevertheless, the ultimate goal of generosity is to glorify God. Generous giving demonstrates that our faith goes beyond words to action. A life of generosity testifies that we are

created in the image of a magnificently generous God. The gratitude generated as we practice generosity brings glory to God, as do the enriched relationships between the giver, the receiver, and God.

Moreover, Paul clearly emphasizes that his appeal for generosity is not imperative. He cautions the Corinthians not to give reluctantly or out of compulsion. In Jesus Christ, through the Holy Spirit, God has freed us from bondage to money and material things, so that we can live and give generously.

In 2 Corinthians 8:9 Paul states unequivocally: “For you know the generous act of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that by his poverty you might become rich.” While we have many needs in our own congregation that need our attention, Paul also teaches us to follow the example of Jesus in giving to a ministry outside of our own needs. Paul believed that for the Corinthians, this was a matter of spiritual life and death. How can

we today become more generous in giving for needs beyond our church walls? This Advent season gives us an opportunity to ponder and do something about that question. I wonder if Paul’s words can inspire us to the degree that our eagerness may be matched by completing our acts of generosity according to our means. As Paul says so eloquently, “For if the eagerness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has—not according to what one does not have” (2 Corinthians 8:12).

May you have a most blessed Christmas. May your ability to give be matched by your eagerness to give. I believe that this is an essential key that will unlock the door of a joyful Christian life for you this Christmas and throughout the New Year. Christmas joy through giving—what a concept! Could that describe what happened in Bethlehem when God gave us a Savior? “Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!” (2 Corinthians 9:15).

† † †



***“For you know
the generous
act of our Lord
Jesus Christ,
that though he
was rich, yet for
your sakes he
became poor,
so that by his
poverty you
might become
rich.”***

(2 Corinthians 8:9)



Special Holiday Music

Upcoming Choral Performances at St. John's

St. John's will host two choral holiday concerts during December. Be sure to take advantage of both outstanding musical offerings!

Sierra Nevada Children's Choir will perform beautiful holiday

literature in its concert titled *Wintersong*. This performance is at 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, December 10th. Tickets may be purchased at the door: \$10 Adult, \$5 Student/Senior, free for children 10 and under.

Bella Voce Women's Ensemble presents its holiday concert at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, December 10th. Tickets may be purchased at the door: \$15 General, \$12 Students, free for children 12 and under.



Christmas Cantata

Cantata in Tribute to Pastor Emeritus Bill Barrett

During worship on Sunday, December 18th, St. John's Chancel Choir will join with local instrumental musicians to perform Joseph Martin's Christmas cantata, *The Winter Rose*. The cantata will be presented as a tribute to

our Pastor Emeritus, Bill Barrett.

This 45-minute choral/orchestral work beautifully celebrates the advent and birth of Jesus Christ. During this musical service of worship,

the Bells of the Cross will offer a lively handbell/percussion rendition of *Cold December Flew Away*. Invite a friend to this celebratory service of worship as we prepare our hearts for Christ's birth.



Recital

Violin Recital on Saturday, December 3rd

Reno Youth Orchestra violinist Oliver Leitner, who is 11 years old, will give a recital on Saturday, December 3rd, at 1:00 p.m., at St. John's Presbyterian. Repertoire will include works by Dvorak,

13-year-old Reno composer Paul Novak, Mozart, Wieniawski, Vivaldi, and Kabelevsky. Oliver will be accompanied by Andrea Lenz and joined by his friends Nate and Maya Dimitroff.

Suggested donation is \$5 per person, with all proceeds benefiting the Reno Philharmonic Youth Orchestras.



Un-Hanging of the Greens

Un-Hanging of the Greens on January 7th

Come one, come all! If you can help "un-decorate" the Church on

Saturday, January 7th, 2012, at 9:00 a.m., please contact Ralph Voss (852-

9141). Remember: Many hands make light work!



Wednesday We Feed

Please join us in Martin Hall on Wednesday, December 7th, 2011, at **5:30 p.m.** for *Wednesday We Feed*. The youth make all the pizza and bake delicious cookies or brownies from scratch. This

year, all of the money raised by WWF will be used for a Church-wide Intergenerational Mission Trip in 2012 to Harbor House in San Francisco. Ryan Hansen is heading up this project, and he

and the youth would love to tell you about it. The WWF is suggesting a donation of \$4.00 for children and \$5.00 for adults, with a family maximum of \$15.00.

Intergenerational Mission Trip Silent Auction Fundraiser

St. John's will be having a silent auction fundraiser beginning December 4th through the 7th, to help fund the Intergenerational Mission Trip in August 2012. If you have items or services to donate, please bring your item or information to the

Church office as soon as possible. All items will be displayed by December 1st, just in time for Christmas shopping.

We will have the results of the Intergenerational Silent Auction during the WWF dinner—just

in time for your Christmas shopping. The entire proceeds from WWF and the silent auction will be used to help fund this trip.

Please contact Maria Winchester (826-0990) for more information.



Thank You From the Discipleship Mariners

The 2011 Discipleship Mariners' Harvest Dinner was a wild success! Discipleship Mariners donated five turkeys and many, many pies; spent about \$275 on all the fixings; and Jane Cates, our fearless leader, deposited \$819 at the Church on November 18th to be used for families in need this Christmas season.

The last discussion in the kitchen on Thursday eve-

ning concluded with Echo Loder and Anderson Elementary Schools being the schools of choice for finding our families. Anne Loring and Jeannine Stewart will contact the appropriate people at the schools. If anyone needs to, please coordinate with Skipper Ann McElreath. Many thanks to all of you who participated. The Mission was thrilled with the leftovers, which were delivered Friday morning.

The other opportunity for giving at the Harvest Dinner was Operation Christmas Child of Samaritan's Purse. There were 49 Shoeboxes packed with age-appropriate toys and toiletries for children around the world.

Thank you to all who contributed to both of these worthwhile causes.

Presbyterian Women's Events

PW Committee—

The Presbyterian Women will entertain all Church women and their guests at the PW Holiday Luncheon on Wednesday, December 14th, at 11:30 a.m. If you are new or bringing guests, please call Betty Squires (829-0354) to make a reservation. Our entertainment will include five classes from the St. John's Children Center, as well as famed harpist Beverly Colgan and vibraphonist Joe Venuto in an interactive Christmas concert. Mary Morning Circle is hosting, assisted by Rebecca Circle. We will be electing and installing our new, creative Coordinating Team.

The Vice Moderator will lead the PW Coordinating Team meetings, the next of which is at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, December 7th, in the Geneva Room.

Call PW Moderator Betty Squires (829-0354) for more details.

Martha Circle—

Normally scheduled to meet the second Tuesday of the month at 1:30 p.m. in the Clawson Library. (Chair: Suzanne Griffith, 829-0197)

Mary Morning Circle—

Normally scheduled on the third Thursday of the month at 9:30 a.m. in the Clawson Library.

(Chair: Joyce Field, 425-1227)

Rebecca Circle—

Will meet Friday, December 9th, at 1:00 p.m. in the Clawson Library. Lou Pitts will lead Lesson 4 and provide refreshments. (Chair: Lou Pitts, 626-6629)

Ruth Circle—

Will not meet in December. Will resume on Tuesday, January 25th, 2012, with a dinner out. (Chair: Dee Russum, 825-3220)



PW Collecting Paper Goods for Hosanna Home

Hosanna Home's mission is to help end the cycle of homelessness and benefit the community at large. It is not to be confused with a temporary emergency shelter. Women must first have made a personal decision to make positive changes in their lives and be willing

do the work necessary to accomplish those goals. Hosanna Home's goal is to promote spiritual, mental, and physical health while teaching successful life skills.

In support, the Presbyterian Women of St. John's are collecting all kinds of

paper goods for Hosanna Home. Collection bins will be in the narthex as an on-going mission project, and information cards will be available. If you have any questions, please call Joyce Field (425-1227).

St. John's Book Club

At **12:30 p.m.** (special time) on Monday, December 12th, the women of St. John's Book Club will meet for their annual Christmas Luncheon at the home of Martha Galloway (1100 Greensburg Circle, 336-8645). Martha will be providing the main dish. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share.

Call Martha (336-8645) by December 10th to RSVP.

Every year we each bring a gaily wrapped used book we have enjoyed for someone else's entertainment. We will also discuss our list of proposed books for 2012, and make our choices. If

any of you have a suggestion, please let Kat Parker (849-3245) know as soon as possible.



News From the Clawson Memorial Library

The Library has been fortunate to receive many new donations of excellent and exciting new books this summer and fall. These books are ready to be checked out to begin your "winter reading".

Also, we have copies of the books read by the St. John's Book Club. If you think one sounds interesting, you're welcome to check it out.

Please stop by on Sundays between 10:00 a.m. and

noon (the Library is closed during worship service) or on Wednesdays from 9:30 a.m. to noon. You'll be surprised and glad that you did!

Clawson Library Hours

Sundays—
10:00 a.m. to Noon
(closed during worship service)

Wednesdays—
9:30 a.m. to Noon

Men's Breakfast and Bible Study Meets at 8:00 a.m.

As we continue our studies in the Advent season, we are having our breakfast and study time starting at 8:00 a.m.

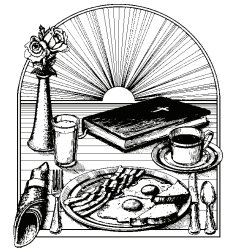
We are now beginning our studies in the first, second and third letters of the Apostle John (and then the Book of Jude) using the Bible and a new (for us) study guide from William Barclay. The Apostle Paul had said that

it was the task of the apostles to lay the foundation of the church. John took on the task of calling people back to the truth.

Nov. 30—I John ch. 1
Dec. 7—I John 2:1-11
Dec. 14—I John 2:12-28
Jan. 4—I John 3: 1-10
Jan. 11—I John 3:11-24
Jan. 18—I John 4:1-12
Jan. 25—I John 4:13-21
(Please note that there are no studies in the last two

Wednesdays in December.)

Bring a friend and join us any Wednesday for breakfast, fellowship and study at Lili's Restaurant, 2325 Kietzke at Franktown Corners. Questions? Call George Griffith (829-0197).



MEN'S BREAKFAST



Mariners

Mariners

Anchors Aweigh—

Anchors Aweigh Mariners is a group comprised of couples and families. If you would like to participate in any of the events for this group, no special invitation is necessary. We would love for you to join us! Contact Rew and Sue Goodenow for more information (851-2716).

The annual **Anchors Aweigh** family and friends Christmas Party and Gift Exchange will be held on Sunday, December 18th, beginning at 6:00 p.m., at the Carmichael/Parke home (1866 Three Mile Drive, 322-9781). Please bring a wrapped gift or re-gift for each person in your family to exchange. Turkey and ham will be provided; please bring a side dish or dessert to share. Come and enjoy a fun evening of food, song, and good will. Canned goods will be collected for the Food Bank of Northern Nevada.

Come to the **Anchors Aweigh** New Year's Eve Party, Game Night at the home of Rew and Sue Goodenow (10070 Rain-tree Court, 851-2716)

from 7:00 p.m. to midnight. Bring your favorite game and finger foods to share.

- Skippers Rew and Sue Goodenow (851-2716).

Barnacles—

The Barnacle Mariners will meet on Friday, December 2nd, at 11:15 a.m. in Martin Hall for their annual Christmas lunch and program. The children from St. John's Children's Center will entertain, and the lunch is being provided through the generosity of Betty Squires. All Barnacle members are asked to bring a stuffed animal, which will be given to the Reno Police Department for distribution to children. Callers will relay further information.

- Skippers Don Garrett (787-3992) and Tom Boyer (323-4513).

Discipleship—

The Discipleship Mariners put on a very successful annual Harvest Dinner. (See article on page 12.) At 4:00 p.m. on Sunday, December 18th, Discipleship will meet at the home of Bob and Kathy Russell (12605 Water Lily Way, 852-6146) for a

Christmas Celebration. Please bring an appetizer or dessert to share, and RSVP with your selection. Also, please bring a "Made In Nevada" gift to exchange (one per couple, around \$10.00).

- Skippers Rick and Ann McElreath (851-2495).

Flippers—

The Flipper Mariners' Christmas Party will be at the home of Ralph and Barbara Voss on Friday, December 9th, at 6:00 p.m. Please bring clothing items for the Good Shepherd's Clothes Closet, as well as white elephant gifts to exchange.

- Skippers Ken and Peggy Meyer (453-1957).

Senior Singles—

The Senior Singles Mariners will meet on Friday, December 30th, at noon in the Geneva Room, for a potluck to end the year. We will finish chapters 20 to 25 of the book of Isaiah, and Trisha Murray will give a special presentation of Revelation. Bring an appetite for the word of God.

- Skipper Betty Squires (829-0354).



ST. JOHN'S
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1070 W. Plumb Lane
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Fax: 775.826.0994

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years, your congregation has given nearly \$64,000 to meet the needs of poverty and hunger in the United States and around the world.

“It’s our privilege to be in partnership with you as

we work to bring help and hope to communities near and far.”

—Deniese Estrada, Program Assistant, Church World Service

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