

# THE COLUMNS

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
January 2011

## AN ATTITUDE FOR THE NEW YEAR

Recently on a trip to downtown Indianapolis I experienced on almost every corner some kind of panhandling. Now, as a pastor and someone who truly cares for humanity, I'm always sensitive to people who are really hurting. I see people at the intersections in Indianapolis and even here in Muncie with signs saying "No food ... need help ... God bless." Often I've reached in my pocket to help some of these people who truly looked like they were down and out.

Here in Muncie panhandling is a little more creative in that people come to the church office ... many of them have some interesting stories about why they need help. Some seem pretty far-fetched; others quite genuine. It's difficult sometimes to discern who really needs help and who doesn't. As a staff we try to do our best to help those we feel are truly needy. I believe helping the poor and those in need is truly a priority for the church of Jesus Christ and, in particular, First Presbyterian Church in Muncie. Just recently we sent an additional \$8,000 to Christian Ministries to help with food and shelter for those in need right here in our own community.

Sometimes we hear some pretty slick stories and we've uncovered sophisticated pan-handlers just looking for a handout. Recently I heard of a subway event in one of the large cities in our country where a young dark-skinned man called out "Ladies and gentleman, may I have a moment of your time?" Now that is probably not an unusual subway event because on many subways there are always pan-handlers. The rent that's past due ... or can you just spare a couple of bucks. But in this case the whole car was startled to attention and turned to look at the young man when he said the unexpected ... "Ladies and gentlemen, would you mind if I were to pass out some copies of my resume. I have a lot to offer a job and I'm hoping you might be able to put me in touch with somebody who needs what I can give." Almost everyone in the subway that day took a copy.

A recent article about some extensive research that church consultants have done with congregations across the country was conducted on why some churches are growing and some are shrinking. The research said that there was only one consistent factor that differentiated the ones that were thriving from

the ones that were not. It wasn't liberal or conservative theology. It wasn't traditional or contemporary worship. It wasn't even geographical location. Consistently the report said that thriving churches operated out of what they called a mindset of abundance ... "We have something to offer, and whether we're rich or poor, conservative or liberal, praise song or hymn book, by the grace of God we have everything we really need to be the church." On the other hand congregations that are not thriving typically operated out of what researchers called a mindset of scarcity ... "There's not enough to go around. We don't have enough resources to offer much. We won't be able to do a lot until somebody gives us what we need." No wonder everybody smiled at the guy in the subway car. No wonder they reached out to take his dossier. No wonder they responded to his little talk about all that he had to offer. That's the kind of attitude we all need, especially the church in the new year.

*Ron Naylor*

## ANNUAL MEETING

**Sunday, January 17, 2010**  
following the 11:00 a.m. service

Please plan to attend!

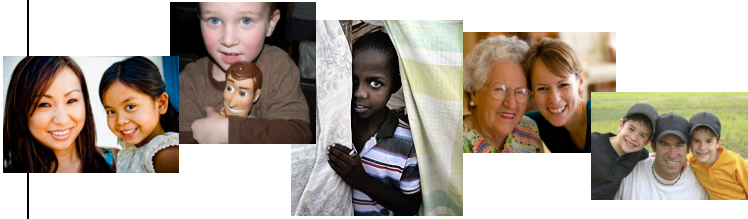
Agenda items will include the proposed budget for 2011 and election of Elders & Deacons.

## OFFICERS' TRAINING

for continuing & new  
Elders and Deacons

Friday, January 21, 6pm  
through  
Saturday, January 22, 2pm

## The Light of Christ's Love



Thank you for shining the light of Christ's love throughout Muncie and Delaware County. Christians share God's love with others and you do that in many different ways. You are great about volunteering your time and talents. And you're good about pledging and financially supporting our church budget so that we have the finances to partner with twenty-four local social service agencies helping those in our community in need. Most of the agencies receive quarterly payments and many also receive volunteer help from us. We receive grateful responses for our help. I want to share a typical "sampling" of those "thank you notes" with you who share so generously your time, talents and treasure.

**From Habitat for Humanity**.....*Because of donors like you, local families have been given the opportunity for renewed hope and new beginnings. Thank you for providing a place for joyful laughter and sweet dreams to be enjoyed this holiday season.....Thank you for your continuous support of local families. Your church is a blessing to so many!*

**From Motivate Our Minds (MOMS)**.....*Your continued support is appreciated more than you know. May the blessing return one hundredfold.*

**From TEAMwork for Quality Living**.....*Thank you for your recent donation to help the daughter of one of our participants..... Your contribution shows your commitment to building a stronger community, and we are most grateful.*

**From A Better Way**.....*Your longstanding partnership is very special to us. Thank you for continuing to support A Better Way and services for victims of abuse. We are having many requests for shelter, and some women are in dangerous situations. Thank you for helping to ensure that services will be available.*

**From Cornerstone Center for the Arts**.....*Thank you! Thank you! We cannot say it enough. Through your generous quarterly gift, children of all ages are provided opportunities for creative expression, educational programs, and events in our historic setting. Many thanks for your ongoing and generous support! Blessings.*

**From South View Elementary School**.....*We would like to express our appreciation for the wonderful work you do with our students. Our students love to spend time with their Kids Hope Mentor every week..... Our thanks, also, for your generous support of our Christmas Gift Tree Program. Over 90% of our students receive Free and Reduced Breakfast/Lunch. We feel very lucky to have been given the opportunity to partner with you so we could make a happier Christmas for many of our students.*

A final "thanks" comes from my delivering a Christmas basket of food. As I turned to leave, the mother was thanking me and saying what a blessing the church was to their family. Suddenly a squeal of delight came from the curly-headed little girl looking through the sacks and boxes of groceries. She came running to her mother with a huge smile on her face yelling, "Oranges! Oranges! She brought oranges!"

The Mission Team thanks all of you. Your pledges and offerings to the church budget make it possible for us to draw up a budget for partnering with local agencies. We thank you for your continued support. I invite you to come talk to me about the work of your Mission Team, or join the team, or hear more about agencies you might like to volunteer with.

Peace, Love and Joy,  
Carrie Jo, your Mission Team Coordinator

## First Presbyterian will bring meals to the Christian Ministry Sleeping Room

Our church has helped the sleeping room for more than 10 years. We have a week when we bring breakfast and dinner for about 12 men. This year our week begins on Sunday January 16 and ends on Saturday January 22.

We bring or cook the meal, serve the food and clean up the kitchen. Christian ministries provides the facility and staff so that these homeless men can eat, sleep, shower and do laundry.

Thank you, church members for your support of this project. You may sign up for this mission opportunity at church in the upstairs hall in January or by calling Michelle Kaitchuck, 747-9836.

## Help! Help! Help!

The Salvation Army Food Pantry needs our help and you can help in one or two ways.

First: We're going to have an on-going canned goods shower. That is, each month we'll focus on a particular item they need to fill their shelves.

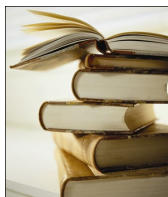


**January's featured item is: Soup!** Yummy, yummy hot soup for frigid January days. Throughout the month, bring a can or two of any variety of soup with you to church and place it in the Food Pantry cart. You'll make someone or several "someones" very happy.

Second: We need people to volunteer to serve in the Food Pantry the first week of each month. The time commitment is 2 hours (1 p.m. to 3 p.m.), one day (any day Monday through Thursday). Two people work together helping clients select their groceries and bag them. On-the-job training is quick and easy. You will enjoy it as well as know you are helping. If you'd like to volunteer or want more information, please call Carrie Jo at 289-4431.

## On Books, Reading, & Action

Here is my annual list of books (one month late for 2010). I didn't bother with all the ones I read for my graduate work, although one did make the list. Each one of these has had an impact on my own faith journey, my ministry or both.



*Humility: The Journey Toward Holiness* by Andrew Murray – I was given this book by a husband and wife who were kind enough to serve on my support committee during a pastoral internship. I read it back then and am reading it again with a book club that meets here at church. This book is a treasure of wisdom and insight regarding what many consider just another virtue, but what the author describes as the fundamental character trait of Jesus Christ.

*A Million Miles in a Thousand Years* by Donald Miller – A fantastic book on the art of story. "A story is when a character wants something, and overcomes conflict to get it." This autobiography came about when two screenwriters asked the author if they could make a movie about one of his earlier books. It's often funny, sometimes poignant, and always insightful. Are you interested in living a better story? Read this book to get ideas for starting a different journey.

*The Incendiary Fellowship* by Elton Trueblood – I found this book on a shelf in Lewis Gishler's study. I knew the author's name based on a recommendation by a seminary professor. What makes this book so compelling is its timelessness. It was published the year I was born, and yet most of the author's observations about life, the church and the world sound as if they were written today's "cutting edge" theologians. It's a treatise on the vital work of the Spirit-filled Church.

*Sanctified Vision* by O'Keefe and Reno – I read this one for my doctoral program. It describes the methods of early Christian writers and preachers and their use and interpretation of scripture. It has freed me to look to Christ as the center of all scriptural interpretation, rather than using scripture to try to 'prove' Christ.

*Radical: Taking Back Your Faith from the American Dream* by David Platt – Platt is a Baptist pastor of a mega church in the Birmingham. I don't agree with his interpretation of Romans, but his indictment of Christians who have confused patriotism, individualism and materialism with Christianity is powerful and convicting. The book concludes with a year-long challenge that is worth the price by itself.

*The Next Christians* by Gabe Lyons – The information in this book comprised roughly half of my latest sermon. The author describes the next generation of believers as restorers, who engage the culture empowered with a vision of God's good creation, rather than separating or accommodating the culture. You may see yourself in the author's descriptions of separatists or cultural Christians, but you'll find yourself wanting to be labeled as one of the next Christians.

*Leaving Church* by Barbara Brown Taylor – This memoir of an Episcopalian priest who left the priesthood after twenty years is beauti-

fully written and contains wisdom from her years in and out of the priesthood. It is valuable not only for pastors, but for any who are interested in living fully and faithfully. It ends with this question: "What is saving your life right now?"

*The Irresistible Revolution* by Shane Claiborne – This book first showed up on my list back in 2007. It inspired me and challenged me. I read it again recently and it made me angry, frustrated and sad. Why? Because I realized that almost four years later, I hadn't truly acted on the inspiration and challenge it first provided.

None of the books we read, no matter the value or import of message communicated, means anything if we simply take it in move on to the next one. Jesus Christ calls us each to be not just hearers of the word, but doers. The same attitude should apply when we read something (or hear a sermon) that inspires or challenges us. So read. Then put down the book and engage God's world!

Happy New Year!

Pastor Dave

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## Campus Ministry at First Pres

Thank you to all those who volunteered with, contributed to and prayed for university ministry in 2010. The University Ministry Team continues to engage students in a variety of ways, many of which are made possible by your generous and faithful support.

Almost every week during fall and spring semesters, members of the congregation cook, serve, and host a meal for students after worship called Eat and Run. Pastor Dave meets with students mid-week in the Atrium on campus. In addition to our ongoing weekly ministry to students the following are some highlights.

**February** – We took our largest group yet to Jubilee 2010 in Pittsburgh, PA. This conference is designed to empower students to explore connections between faith and vocation, to link them to people and organizations that are engaging in missional ministries and to lead them in joyful worship with a couple thousand other college students.

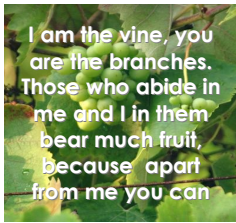
**May** – We hosted study hall for Spring semester finals, and celebrated the graduation of some of our faithful students.

**August** – The lemonade stand welcomed BSU students back to campus. A new sub-committee of Christian Education was formed, devoted to University Ministry, and began meeting monthly.

**September** – First Presbyterian Student Outreach (FPSO), our campus student group, appointed officers who have taken initiative to plan events for students in the spring. A new random pizza delivery outreach to SigmaPhiEpsilon and AlphaGammaDelta Greek houses began.

**December** – Another successful Study Hall was made possible by the generosity of volunteer hosts and treat-makers. This year we added a lighted sign to attract students and are making plans to add some grilling for the Spring 2011 Study Hall.





## *Branches'* Upcoming Events

To glorify God, *Branches'* activities provide education, fellowship, mission, stewardship, and worship experiences for all junior high and senior high students. All gatherings are from 5:00 to 7:00 pm at the church unless otherwise noted and will usually include dinner (bring \$\$ to help defray meal costs). ***Always check your email for more details and last minute changes.*** If I don't have your email address, please send it to [cathy@firstpresmuncie.org](mailto:cathy@firstpresmuncie.org).

**January 2, 2011 Fun, games, and little work!**

Ring in the New Year a day late and celebrate Epiphany a few days early. We'll move the magi to the manager scene and then do some other activities.

**January 5 (W) AP Bible Study (Wednesdays, 5:00 to 7:00)**

Join us for a study of Romans and a light supper.

**January 9 Job Jar Sunday**

We'll take down the manager scene and do other jobs around the church.

**January 12 (W) AP Bible Study (Wednesdays, 5:00 to 7:00)**

Join us for a study of Romans and a light supper.

**January 16 No meeting**

**January 19 (W) AP Bible Study (Wednesdays, 5:00 to 7:00)**

Join us for a study of Romans and a light supper.

**January 23 Mystery night**

**January 26 (W) AP Bible Study (Wednesdays, 5:00 to 7:00)**

Join us for a study of Romans and a light supper.

**January 30 Pack the Sacks!**

Assemble 100 sack lunches for the Harvest Soup Kitchen

**February 2 (W) AP Bible Study (Wednesdays, 5:00 to 7:00)**

Join us for a study of Romans and a light supper.

**February 6 Super Bowl Sunday**

Super Bowl subs in the morning; Super Bowl parties in the evening.

We'll be assembling subs during the first service. Please arrive at 8:00. This is a fundraiser for youth trips, so please make every effort to participate if you plan to go on a trip. Would anyone like to host a Super Bowl party?

**February 9 (W) AP Bible Study (Wednesdays, 5:00 to 7:00)**

Join us for a study of Romans and a light supper.

**February 12 (Sat) Walk A Mile and Breakfast**

We'll meet at the church 8:30 am and head to the Horizon Center for the *Walk A Mile* fundraiser for the Muncie Mission. Start collecting your pledges now! Bring money for breakfast at Bob Evans afterward.

# Super Bowl Subs

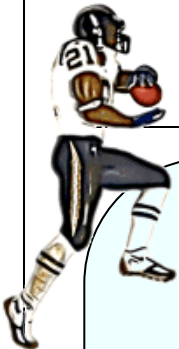


Sunday, February 6, 2011

8" sub for a freewill donation

**BRANCHES is raising money to help fund next summer's mission trips. Please help support the youth by ordering subs for Super Bowl Sunday! It's just this easy ...**

- 1. Order subs by Tuesday, February 1, 2011.**  
Only pre-ordered subs will be made. Complete one order form per sub. Additional forms are available outside the church office.  
**Order by February 1!**
- 2. Donations may be made when you pick up your subs in the Fellowship Hall after church on Sunday, February 6th.**



## AP Bible Study

- WHO:** High school & middle school students
- WHAT:** Dinner & Bible study
- WHEN:** Wednesday evenings, 5:00 to 7:00
- WHERE:** Conference room
- WHY:** Because Sunday school isn't enough!

## Order Form

(Please Print)

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

Check preferred pick-up time:

- Select up to 4:**
- Ham
  - Turkey
  - Roast Beef
  - Swiss Cheese
  - Hot Pepper Cheese
  - American Cheese

- Select toppings:**
- Lettuce
  - Tomatoes
  - Onions
  - Dill Pickles
  - Black Olives

## MINI MISSION?

BRANCHES ...

*IF YOU WILL BE IN MUNCIE FOR SPRING BREAK (MARCH 21-25 FOR MUNCIE, DELTA, AND YORKTOWN SCHOOLS) AND WOULD LIKE TO SPEND A COUPLE OF DAYS TOGETHER DOING LOCAL MISSION, PLEASE LET THEA KNOW!*

## MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

The first 2011 meeting date for the newly formed Men's Fellowship group will be **Saturday, January 8th**, at 8:00 am in the Fellowship Hall.

Approximately 50 men attended the planning meeting held on December 11th. The guest speaker, Ted Baker, shared about his close relationship with former church member Jim Amos. Pastor Ron challenged each table of men to share with each other their most memorable Christmas and why. Great fellowship was had by all as evidenced by loud laughter and sincere sharing.

The consensus seems to be to meet the second Saturday morning of January, February, March and April and see if there is a desire to go beyond the spring. Each meeting will have a guest speaker sharing his Christian faith and how the Lord works in his life.

**Men, please join us on Saturday, January 8th in the Fellowship Hall from 8:00 - 9:30 a.m.**

## Per Capita

By the end of January First Pres will be required to pay \$31.15 per capita to the Presbytery based upon the membership of the congregation (total due \$21,711.55). If you would like to help with this expense by paying your family's per capita, please make a note in the memo section of your check.

## Redeeming Your Routines

New Adult Sunday School Class  
January 2-23, 2011 in Bride's Room

Does it seem like there is never enough time for you and the ministries and people that are important to you? Are you at a point in life where you have too much time on your hands? Are you running around like crazy trying to keep up with your kids' activities? This class will empower you to never waste a moment and yet be free to use your time wisely and joyfully. Together we'll examine the meaning of Sabbath, work, and leisure and also offer practical steps for giving control of your schedule to God.

## Adult Ministry Luncheon

Wednesday, January 19th  
12:00 noon in Fellowship Hall

Our own Judge Pat (Zeabart) will speak about **"The Joys of Serving as the Yorktown Town Court Judge"**

Adults (young, old or in-between) are invited. Bring a friend or several. Lunch is \$3 per person. RSVP by January 17 at the church office 289-4431

## 2011 Flower Calendar

A new Flower Calendar has been posted on the bulletin board by the Information Desk. There are still some dates available if you are interested in providing flowers for the communion table during the coming year. If you would like to participate, simply sign up for a particular Sunday and we will contact you prior to that date.

For more information please contact Scott Brown or Cathy Bretz.

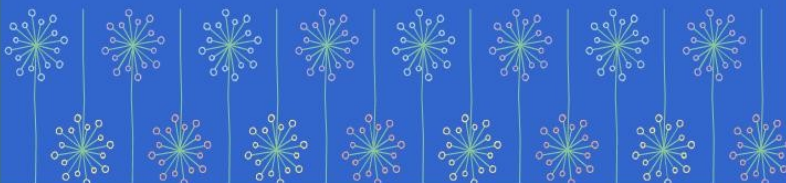
## Staying Connected

### Women's Morning Out

Saturday, February 12th  
9:00am - 12:00pm in Fellowship Hall

PROGRAM: *God of Romance*  
GUEST SPEAKER: *Leah Chandler*

Eat breakfast, fellowship, worship, and learn together!  
Bring a dish to share and \$5 to help cover our costs.  
Questions? Please contact Kim Jewett at 216-7167.





## Church Library News

### Christian Education

Stan and Jan Berenstain are well known for producing the Berenstain Bears series and other humorous illustrated books for children. They also are the authors of a book that may be welcomed by many parents.

How to Teach Your Children About God Without Actually Scaring Them Out of Their Wits (641.9 BERE) may be helpful to those who are having difficulty with this important parental duty. Topics covered include Sunday School, creation, loss, grieving, and prayer.

As might be expected, the lessons are profusely illustrated and fun.

### Preventing Alzheimer's

When she discovered that she had a gene that indicates susceptibility to Alzheimer's disease, Jean Carper, a medical journalist, decided to try to delay the disease as long as possible. Results of her investigation are reported in 100 Simple Things You Can Do to Prevent Alzheimer's (616.8 CARP).

Exercise, meditation, surfing the net, and drinking apple juice are among the recommendations suggested by the author. She asserts that if the onset of Alzheimer's can be delayed for five years, the odds of getting the disease are cut in half. Its onset can be delayed for 10 years, the chances of getting it are almost nil.

### To Love a Child

A new baby is easy to love. But as children grow older, parents may have to work harder to find new ways to express their love. That's the idea behind 365 Ways to Love Your Child (306.874 KRUE).

The author, Caryl Waller Krueger, provides ideas for parents in a variety of situations including the death of a pet, starting school, illness, teasing, separation, anger, and fear of the dark. The book is valuable for parents of children ranging from preschoolers to teenagers.

### Seeking Calm

Anxiety, fear, and panic are negative emotions that can be overcome and replaced by positive feelings. In Calming Your Anxious Mind (152.4 BRAN), Dr. Jeffrey Brantley offers a method of self help that combines the traditions of modern Western medicine with older traditions of meditation and inquiry into meaning and purpose. The result can be transformation from a life plagued by worry and fear into a life of tranquility filled with kindness and compassion. Dr. Brantley is a consulting associate in the Duke University Department of Psychiatry.

### God and Cancer

Lynn Eib, a cancer survivor and cancer patient advocate, has collected true stories of patients and their families who have been touched by God in miraculous ways. Her book, When God and Cancer Meet (248.8 EIB) offers encouragement through the powerful testimony of those who have received a dread diagnosis.

In 1991, the author founded a Cancer Prayer Support Group which is one of the oldest in the nation.

--Maxine and Chuck Leslie

*Have you visited  
our library lately?  
Check it out!*





First Presbyterian Church  
1400 W. Riverside Ave. ... Lifting Up Christ  
Muncie IN 47303 Building Up People  
Phone: 765-289-4431  
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www.firstpresmuncie.org

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**SUNDAY SERVICE TIMES:**

8:30 a.m.—Contemporary Service in the Sanctuary  
11:00 a.m.—Korean Service in the Chapel  
11:00 a.m.—Traditional Service in the Sanctuary

[www.firstpresmuncie.org](http://www.firstpresmuncie.org)

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

**The Rev. Dr. Ronald Naylor, Senior Pastor**  
ronpres@sbcglobal.net

**The Rev. David Jewett, Associate Pastor**  
davepres@sbcglobal.net

**The Rev. Dr. MyungKu Lee, Associate Pastor**  
ninebrights@hotmail.com or 9brights@hanmail.net

**Pastor Carrie Jo Miller, Commissioned Lay Pastor**  
carriejo1stpres@sbcglobal.net

**The Rev. Dr. Robert Wauzzinski, Parrish Associate**  
wabber15@aol.com

**Cathy Alexander, Youth director**  
cathy@firstpresmuncie.org

**Lisa Ulrich, Business Administrator**  
lisa@firstpresmuncie.org

**Sundays at First Pres**

8:30am Contemporary Worship (sanctuary)  
9:30am Sunday School classes  
11:00am Traditional Worship (sanctuary)  
11:00am International Worship (chapel)  
12:30pm Eat 'n Run (lunch for college students)  
4:30pm Silent worship (Bride's room)  
5:00pm Branches (check your email!)

**Wednesdays at First Pres**

**Women's Book Group** meets on the 2nd & 4th Wednesdays at noon. Contact Pastor Dave for more information.

**Discipleship Bible Study** for adults (led by Bob Wauzzinski) 7:00 p.m. in the Lounge.

**AP Bible Study** (for youth) 5-7pm in the Conference Room.

**Childcare:**

Infants through 3 year olds receive child care and Christian nurturing in Room 101 throughout Sunday morning from 8:15 am to noon.

**Jan 30th  
10am combined service  
followed by carry-in**

*Best wishes for a wonderful new year!*  
**2011**