

# NEWSLETTER : DECEMBER 30 2009

Many years ago when I was maybe 7 I remember asking my dad, "Will you still be alive in 2000?" He laughed and said, "I hope so." 'Wow', my young mind thought, 'Won't we both be old then!' Here we are at 2010.

Thankfully, he's still alive, and I'm grown up plus ten years. I don't consider either of us to be as old as my 7 year old mind thought we'd be.

This is a time when many of us are thinking of New Year's resolutions. In this time of celebrating Jesus' birth, it's pretty amazing to think about the hope and newness that birth represents. A fresh start. A new beginning. And all that God will be doing in this coming year, how God has been preparing us and the church for our work and ministry in 2010.

Ecclesiastes states that God has made everything suitable for its time, and that God puts a sense of the past and the future into our minds (3:11). Now we can't know all that God has in mind for us. Our future continues to unfold, and we must continue to act in faith that the God who called us here is with us every step of the way.

As we step into 2010 may our resolutions reach further than the bathroom scale and tidy closet. May the Holy Spirit move us to act boldly in faith for realizing our service and place in the Kingdom.

*Jennifer*

*...from Reverend Garrett Bugg...*

As I boarded the train at Christmastown, there was a young girl two rows up. She looked back and in the cool night air three days after Christmas gave the brightest, happiest, most joy-filled expression. It was like she opened the gift she had always wanted. Her eyes were wide and her excitement shone through them with such clarity that everyone I was with could not help but smile. That is the joy of Christmas, not of Santa and sleighs, not of toys and presents, but of Christmas itself. Earlier in the day I was told "Happy Holidays!" by a clerk who then corrected himself--"one holiday is past already. . . I guess its just Happy Holiday now." But Christmas lasts twelve days! The joy of Christmas morning doesn't end when the last of the wrapping paper is taken to the garbage or when the tree comes down. It lasts and lasts. With that joy, I continue to proclaim to those who I meet in the streets and stores--Merry Christmas! And as I prepare to move to Kentucky to join all of you in Ashland, my eyes contain much of the excitement of that young child on the train. I hope you do, too! Merry Christmas!

*...Rev. Bugg will begin his ministry in our midst Jan. 10th!*

**Sunday, January 10th**

Beans & Cornbread after Worship to welcome Rev. Bugg

**Monday, January 18th**

Turkey Noodle Soup for Martin Luther King Day  
Bring sandwiches or desserts. If you'd like to help, contact  
Ann Wiseman or Betty Jean Phipps

Worship this Sunday, Jan. 3rd  
will be followed

by an  
All-Church  
Spaghetti Dinner  
(Bring salad or dessert)



*...and, at 1:15pm,  
the much-anticipated  
performance of  
'The Not-So-Silent Night'  
Youth & Children's Play  
Everyone is welcome!!*

**"The Sunday before Christmas"**

By Teresa Cassity

Twass the Sunday before Christmas  
And all through the service  
God's creatures were stirring; the Session was nervous  
The cookies were laid by the doorway with care  
In hopes a head minister soon would be there.  
The choir they were nestled all snug with Max Jackson  
While visions of Bob still danced with a passion.  
Jennifer in robe and Mark in his pew  
The congregation settled down for a well thought out clue  
When all a sudden there arose such a clatter.  
Pam Potter sprang from her pew  
To see what was the matter  
All looked to the narthex and knew in a flash  
No need to worry-just a lemonade crash  
The glint from the windows they gleamed and they glowed  
Gave the luster of glory to prayers below  
When what to my wondering eyes should appear  
but a tray of elements holy and dear  
With a sweep of her hand and a wipe of a tear  
I knew in a moment communion was near.  
More rapid than eagles the elders they came  
broke bread with the people and Jesus proclaimed  
To the front of the church to the very pew  
Some brand new faces but mostly they knew  
And then in a twinkling I heard on the roof  
The pigeons quite many, they'd come home to roost.  
Jennifer drew in her hand and was turning around  
Down the aisle came the children they came with a bound  
They jumped on the steps, they knocked down a few  
While parents embarrassed slid down in their pews  
Their eyes how they twinkled, their dimples how merry  
Their smiles they were sunny, their noses some runny  
The pastor she read from the word, from the truth  
Parishioners nodded, they needed no proof  
A close of her eyes and a bow of her head  
Soon gave me to know I had nothing to dread  
And raising her hand benedicting they rose  
A blessing she gave them right down to their toes  
She had no sleigh and they gave no whistle  
But soon away they all flew like the down of a thistle  
But I heard her proclaim as they drove out of sight  
Jesus is born! We can sleep sound tonight!



**First Presbyterian Church**  
 1600 Winchester Avenue  
 P.O. Box 1  
 Ashland, Kentucky 41105-0001  
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**THIS WEEK**

**“Connecting our Community to the  
 Love and Grace of Jesus Christ.”**

**SUNDAY'S ACTIVITIES**

**First Presbyterian Church**  
**January 3, 2009**

**Sermon:** “ReCreation” -Rev. Jennifer Johnson  
**Scripture:** John 1: 1-18  
**Ushers:** Ira & Norma Smith  
**Greeter:** Jean Robinson  
**Acolyte:** ??  
**Liturgist:** Andrew Potter

**First Presbyterian Church**  
**January 3 - January 9**

**Sunday** 9:30 Sunday School  
 10:30 Chancel Choir  
 10:50 Worship/Communion  
 After-Worship Spaghetti Dinner  
 1:15 Youth & Children’s Play  
 ‘The Not-So-Silent Night’

**Monday** 1:30 Care Share & Prayer Group

**Tuesday** 6:00 Kid’s Kung Fu  
 7:00 Tai Chi

**Wednesday** 5:30 Manna  
 6:15 Winchester Bells  
 7:00 Youth Committee Meeting  
 7:15 Chancel Choir

**Thursday** 6:00 Kung Fu  
 7:00 Tai Chi

**Saturday** 11:00 Tai Chi  
 12:00 Kung Fu (13 & Up)  
 1:00 Kid’s Kung Fu

**REMEMBER IN PRAYER**

**Woodland Oaks:** Delbert Davis, Bill Watson, Ruth Faulkner  
**Trinity Station:** Janet Cooper, Opal Vincell  
**Kingsbrook:** Polly Irvine, Jean Young, Ruby Moody  
**Kings Daughters & Sons:** Eda Rae Thornbury  
**At Home:** Donna Rickey, Bob Bartley, Joan Adams, Julia Richmond, Deborah Taylor, Shirley Kocchi, Edwin Conley, Nicholo Rose, David Messer, Danny Brown, Ted Coleman, Larry Patterson, John Preece (Sharon Adkins’s Father), Edwin Jolly (Krista All’s Father), Rick Presley (David Murphy’s uncle), Helen Harry, Jan Walz, Jane VanAntwerp, Doug Maddox, Ed Lake  
**KDMC:** Pam Peebles, Bob Doss  
**Jo Lin Health Center:** Allen Moon  
**In the Service:** Jay McCoy, Troy Fairchild, Rebecca Sharp, Megan Caudill, David Keen, Lee Sharp, Tim Gross  
**Out of State:** Clay Boyles (W.Va.), Jim Murphy (TN)  
**At Seminary:** Julie Maggard  
**Louisville:** Josh, Alicia, & Jameson Creed McCollister (P. Morris)

**NO MANNA this week!**  
 Manna will resume January 6


**YOUTH NEW YEAR’S KICK-OFF**  
**Concert and Lock In**  
**January 1**

5:30 p.m.— Friday, January 1  
 Stay until Saturday, January 2 (Breakfast at 9 a.m. and Play Practice at 10 a.m.)

CONCERT, ACTIVITIES, AND GAMES

**Children and Youth Dress Rehearsal**  
**For The Not So Silent Night**  
**Saturday, January 2**  
**10:00 a.m.**

PLEASE come ready to say your lines, sing your songs, dance your dances, and act your play!

 ...Don’t forget to pick up your poinsettias at the church!