

# THE CHRIST CHURCH MESSENGER

The Newsletter of Christ Church United Methodist, Beacon, NY 12508

November 2009, Issue 9

Dear Friends of Christ Church,

As you know, we are having a study on fear at the church called “Fearless” based on the book by the same name by Max Lucado, well-known Christian author. If you can’t make the study, you might want to buy the book. It is an easy read and might help you.

I know there is a lot to be anxious about these days. Every time you turn around there’s something about swine flu, the economy, or some risk to our health. One fear that many parents have concerns their children – their safety, well-being, and their future. We try to be the best parents we can, and then leave it up to God to protect them. However, there is one thing we can do for our kids and grandchildren, no matter what age, and that is to pray for them.

I just read an article by Charles Stanley on that topic. In the article he listed 10 ways we can pray for our children. If you are a parent or grandparent, you may want to go to [intouch.org](http://intouch.org) and read the full article. Below is a summary:

- 1. For godly wisdom.** Ask for your children to receive that liberal application of godly wisdom.
- 2. For character.** Pray that challenges, disappointments, and even heartache will help your children grow into the godly men and women they were created to be.
- 3. For a spirit of excellence.** Pray that your children will give their best to everything they attempt, to the glory of God.
- 4. For humility.** Pray that your children will appreciate their infinite worth as children of God but, at the same time, will recognize that God expects them to walk with Him—and their fellow man—in meekness and humility.
- 5. For a desire to know God.** Is there anything we can ask for our children that will offer them

more happiness, fulfillment, and success than a personal, relationship with their Creator? Pray that your child will have a hunger and thirst to know God more every day—and an undivided heart to seek and serve Him with abandon.

**6. For direction.** Pray that your children will learn at a young age to seek God’s direction and guidance in all things, so by the time they make the big decisions—like college, career, and marriage—they’ll be in the habit of following His perfect plan every step of the way.

**7. For favor.** There’s nothing wrong with praying that your children will have favor with teachers, school administrators, coaches, and eventually employers—as well as with classmates, teammates, and coworkers—and that they’ll be liked and appreciated for who they are.

**8. For discernment.** Ask God to let your children see as God sees, be attracted to what pleases and glorifies Him, be repelled by the things that displease him, and understand the difference clearly and consistently.

**9. For the right friends/spouse.** Pray that your children will value God-fearing friends, and that they’ll eventually find their way to godly mates, as the Lord intends. Also pray for their future spouses’ upbringing.

**10. For respect toward authority.** Our children are conditioned by TV, movies, and songs not to respect parents, teachers, school administrators, police officers, or government officials—rude is cool. Pray that your kids will have proper respect for everyone from the president to the boss at their part-time job, and appropriate fear toward God.

In Christ’s love,  
*Pastor Tony*

## U M W

Our October meeting was focused on the beginning of our current UMW fundraiser. Dina Clerc presented items from the "At Home America" catalog. This activity is open to the entire congregation, and all orders should be placed by the end of October. Please contact Ruth Ehlers.

On Nov. 10 we will meet for supper at 6:30 pm. After a short business meeting, we will conduct our annual auction. The funds raised from these activities help us to be more active in missions. Our local church is considered a mission. We have fulfilled our current pledge and recently donated \$500 to the general fund of the church to help cover current expenses.

## THANK YOU'S

**P**astor Tony and Sue wish to thank the congregation for the pastor appreciation luncheon on Oct. 18, plus the cards, gifts, flowers, balloons, and good wishes. A special thanks to Joan Schweikhart and her committee who pulled all of this together.

Thanks to our UMW who gave a generous donation of \$500 to the church. We appreciate all the UMW does in its ministry and mission.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL

**T**he kids did a great job surprising Pastor Tony and Sue with balloons, flowers and their scrapbook for Pastor Appreciation month! Good Job Kids!

Trick or Treat for UNICEF boxes were handed out to the children on Oct. 18. Please encourage your children to collect as much money possible so we can reach a new goal this year to help others in need.

We are having a Harvest Fest on Sunday, November 8<sup>th</sup> for the children. This will be held during Sunday School and will run until 1:00. We have fun activities for the kids to do along with a fun craft and of course yummy treats. We will be serving them hot dogs and chips for lunch (before the treats of course). I am asking

the congregation to save your Halloween pumpkins and cornstalks to help with the decorations. These can be bought to Church on Saturday the 7<sup>th</sup> when you come for the Roast Beef Dinner!! ☺

I am also asking for donations of Apples and any "treats" that anyone would like to donate.

We will once again be involved with "Operation Christmas Child" this year. "*Operation Christmas Child is a great way to bring joy and the Good News of Jesus Christ to children in need of hope.*" (Franklin Graham, President of Samaritan's Purse). More information on this will be posted in the upcoming weeks.

Our food drive for our local Salvation Army will start next Sunday. Please send you child to Sunday-School with a non-perishable food item when possible. We're going to fill a space full of food for all to see how giving we are!

Diane Butler, Sunday School Superintendent

## PLEASE JOIN US

**P**astor Tony has been intending to have new members classes after the service, but things keep coming up! It is important that you join the church so that you can vote on certain matters and are eligible to serve on certain committees that are restricted to members.

The new members classes will take place for three Sundays following the morning service, starting on Nov. 8. If you aren't sure you want to join the church at this time, please attend to learn more about our Methodist heritage.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Trustees:** Tues., Nov. 3, 7:00 pm

**Roast Beef Dinner:** Sat., Nov. 7 from 4:30 until 7:00 at the church.

**Admin Council:** Mon., Nov. 9, 7:00 pm

**UMW:** Tues., Nov. 10, 6:30 pm

**Charge Conference:** Sat., Nov. 14, 1:00 pm at the church. Please plan to be there.

**Men's Breakfast:** Sat., Nov. 21, 9:00 am.

**Children's Choir Sings:** Sunday, Nov. 8.

**Thanksgiving Day:** Nov. 26

**Evangelism Committee:** Monday, Nov. 30, at 7:00 pm at the Bernabe's.

## OTHER NEWS

**Children's Choir** has been practicing several songs and will be presenting them to the congregation during the service on Nov. 8. Please plan to be there to support our kids.

**Salvation Army** continues to need your food donations. In the vestibule area of the church there is a wooden container for you to place non-perishable food items. The need is always great, but is even greater at this time of the year and under these economic conditions. Please pick up some extra food items every time you do your shopping (especially if they are one sale) and then bring them to church.

## PRAYER CONCERNS

Prayers for those who are no longer able to join us for worship: Nelson Fox; Reta Chrystal; Gladys Bopp; the Blakslees.

Prayers for those recently hospitalized and recuperating: Kyle Bernabe; Walter Cohen; Juliana Pino.

Prayers for those who recently lost loved ones.

Prayers for Dena Wood who recently injured herself in a fall.

## SMALL GROUP STUDIES

Thursday evening study is at 7:00 at the church. Continuing the "Fearless" study.

Women's morning study is on Wednesdays from 9:00 until 11:00 at the parsonage. Studying *Having a Mary Heart in a Martha World*.

Women's evening study is on Wednesdays from 7:00 until 8:30 at the parsonage. Study of various Liz Curtis Higgs teachings, starting with *Bad Girls of the Bible*.

## ATTENDANCE LEVELS

**B**elow are the attendance and cash receipts figures for recent Sundays. Thank you for your prayers, your presence and your support of God's work through his church.

<u>Weekend of</u>	<u>Attend</u>	<u>Total Rcpts</u>	<u>Cong Giving</u>
9/20/2009	75	\$1,258	\$1,258
9/27/2009	75	\$1,778	\$1,778
10/4/2009	87	\$3,169	\$1,911 <sup>1</sup>
10/11/2009	98	\$3,247	\$1,883 <sup>2</sup>
10/18/2009	79	\$1,780	\$1,280 <sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Total Receipts includes \$558 Spirit of Beacon Day and \$700 for building usage

<sup>2</sup> Total Rcpts includes \$378 take-out; \$246 concert; \$690 bldg usage

<sup>3</sup> Total Rcpts includes \$500 from the UMW.

The difference between "total receipts" and "congregational giving" or "offerings" is the funds the church receives from other sources.

## OTHER ITEMS

**Altar Flowers:** On Jan. 3 the cost of each arrangement will increase to \$20. Please use the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board to order your flowers, or call Ruth Ehlers on 845-831-6390.

**Website:** The church's website contains recent sermons, the newsletter, pictures, and the church calendar. Please refer people who might be interested in the church to [www.gbgm-umc.org/christchurchbeacon](http://www.gbgm-umc.org/christchurchbeacon).

**Pastor's Blog:** is at [www.Poughkeepsiejournal.com](http://www.Poughkeepsiejournal.com), and click on "opinions." The blog includes discussions on moral, ethical, topical and religious issues.

**Change of Address:** if you are moving or you no longer want to receive this newsletter please let us know by calling the office or sending Pastor Tony an email.

## Church's Mission Statement

The mission of Christ Church United Methodist is to welcome all people into a Christ-centered community that nurtures and values each member; to practice and strengthen our faith through biblically-based worship, preaching, and education; and to reach out to others in our community and the world through our talents and resources.

### **CHURCH INFORMATION**

Pastor: Tony Beck; email: tonybeck@optonline.net

Church telephone: 845-831-0365

Parsonage telephone: 845-831-2068

Web site: www.gb-gm-umc.org/christchurchbeacon

Pastor's Blog: www.poughkeepsiejournal.com

Church Location: at the intersection of Phillips and Union streets in Beacon NY 12508. Take route 9D south to Phillips St., and follow Phillips past the cemetery to the end. Continue across Union St. into driveway. Enter "60 Union Street" into your GPS.

Mailing address: 51 Violet Dr., Beacon, NY 12508

#### Schedule of recurring events:

Sunday Morning worship service 10:00 am

Sunday School (same time as morning service)

Sunday Evening worship service 6:30 pm

United Methodist Women 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday, 6:30 pm

Men's Breakfast usually last Saturday, 9:00 am

Women's prayer & study grp: every Wed 9:00 am

Evening women's grp: every other Wed 7:00 pm

See the *Beacon Free Press* for upcoming events

THANKSGIVING DAY – NOV. 26



## CHRIST CHURCH UNITED METHODIST Covenant Card for 2010

I renew my covenant to faithfully participate in the church's ministries by my prayers, my presence, my gifts, my service, and my witness. In particular I pledge to regularly support the church financially throughout the year in the amount of:

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ per week or \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per month (tax deductible if you itemize)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  Check if you want envelopes

**Church Copy** – bring on Sunday November 15



## CHRIST CHURCH UNITED METHODIST Covenant Card Reminder for 2010

I have renewed my covenant to faithfully participate in the church's ministries. I will refer to this card as a reminder that I will regularly support the church financially in 2010 in the amount of:

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ per week or \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per month

**Personal Copy** – Keep for Your Records

Note: If you use envelopes, you will receive quarterly and annual statements from the church, which can be used for income tax deduction purposes if you itemize (the IRS recognizes church statements as the preferred proof of charitable giving). If you currently don't have envelopes and would like them, please check the box on the covenant card. You may drop your card in the plate at church or mail it to the church.