



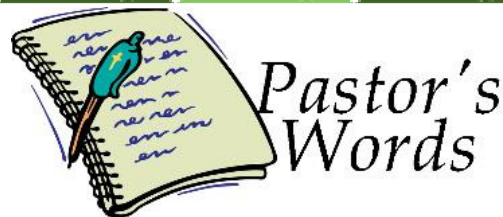
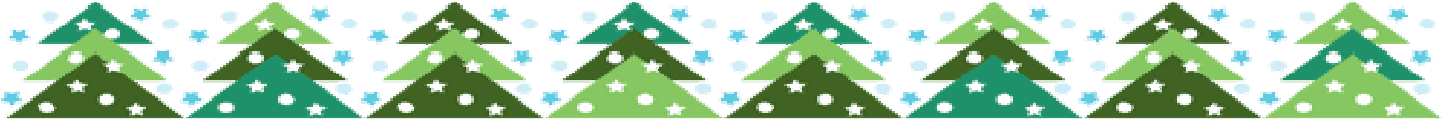
BENEVA CHRISTIAN CHURCH
(DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)

THE GOOD NEWS

Rev. Bobby Dickerson

December 2010

Volume 40 Issue 12



The Advent season is once again upon us. We have decorated and prepared our homes and church to welcome the Christ child once again. But Christmas is all about our perspective. It's not about the lights and tinsel. It's not about the gifts and the food. It's not even about our family. Simply put it is about Jesus. Yes I know that sounds kind of obvious but I don't think so anymore these days. Even in the "church" sometimes we forget about the reason for the season. We think it is about the children's Christmas program, the choir's cantata, the Christmas Eve service or the church's annual Christmas dinner. All of these things are important and meaningful but they too should be about Jesus.

You might say Pastor Bobby they are about Jesus. And I would have to agree in a way. They tell the story of Jesus, the circumstances of his birth, the perspective of his parents, the perspective of the shepherds and magi. And all of this from the perspective of the disciples who recorded it. But they are not the real story of Jesus. The real story of Jesus is about our perspective on the wonder of God sending his only son to live among us. Emmanuel—God with us. It is not about us receiving him as a child but us accepting him as our Lord and Savior. It's not about us retelling the Christmas story every year but about living it out every day in every way. It not about the songs we sing at Christmas but about the song he puts in our hearts. It's not about the love we feel during the season but the love we show one to another all year long. Christmas is about Jesus and how he showed us to live. I challenge us all to once again make Christmas about Jesus and how we will live for him.

Merry Christ-mas and Happy New Year!
Pastor Bobby

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FINANCIAL REPORT

Income	Budget	YTD	Budget
8,975	15,060	206,699	165,661
Expenses			
13,872	13,747	177,468	182,130
Net Profit (Loss)			
(4,897)	1,313	29,231	(16,469)



CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLE LIGHT SERVICE

7:00 PM

COME JOIN US!



Deacon Schedule for December

9:30 A.M. Contemporary Praise Service - Communion will be served up front

December 05	December 12	December 19	December 26
Nila Valvo	1	Debbie York	1
Suzie Davis	2	Jeff Morrison	2

Prep for 1st service and assist in prepping for 2nd service

10:45 A.M. Traditional Worship - Communion will be served in the pews rather than up front

December 05	December 12	December 19	December 26
Kathy Bearden	1	Tim Brodkorb	1
Joe Bearden	2	Alicia Brodkorb	2

Elder Serving Schedule for December

Dec 5 - Jane Oneal - Call to Worship
Glenn Oneal

Dec 12 - Frank Metheny - Call to Worship
Sara Metheny

Dec 19 - Betty Freant - Call to Worship
Greg Fulkert

Christmas Eve Service - Jane and Glenn

Dec 26 - Patty Poquette - Call to Worship
Garland Poquette

Greg Fulkert will be Elder of the month

*"This will be a sign for you:
you will find a child
wrapped in bands of cloth
and lying in a manger."*



Luke 2:12, NRSV



Sunday School Class is available for our youngest youth also at 10:45. Come Join US!!



The **Wired Word** class continues to meet in the CYF room at 10:45 on Sunday mornings. They discuss and study the most current events of the week and discover how our faith and the Bible intertwine. Be sure to give your e-mail address to Sara or Frank Metheny to be included in this exciting class.

Cornerstone: Bible Study class meeting in Fellowship Hall during second service.



Lunch and Learn
Thursdays
12:15—1:00pm
Fellowship Hall

Empowered by the Spirit, We will reach out in Love and Fellowship; Teaching and Making Disciples.



Remember Our Homebound Members

Wilma Kaulfuss
Dortha Rogers
Gail and Berta Boggs
LaVerne Thomas
Ruth Martin

THE GOOD NEWS

The Newsletter is now being placed on the church’s website. If you know of someone having trouble getting the Good News please notify the church office so we can print them a copy or email it to them,

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Dec 01	Caitlin Byrd
Dec 01	Lori Walsh
Dec 02	Denise Mason
Dec 08	Patricia Weaver
Dec 10	Brent Creech
Dec 11	Dean Allen Platt
Dec 21	Bobby Dickerson
Dec 21	David Harlow
Dec 21	Charles Rabjohns
Dec 24	Marshall DuBois
Dec 24	Sara Metheny
Dec 26	Kyle Mason
Dec 27	Russell Robbins
Dec 28	Jerry Bogart
Dec 28	Perry Mason
Dec 29	Christina Fruehwald
Dec 29	Stacia Hill
Dec 30	Wally Brunton



- Dec 01 Larry & Jackie Hazen
- Dec 14 Perry & Denise Mason
- Dec 23 David & Mary Harlow
- Dec 27 Harold & Jane Holbrook



IN NEED OF PRAYER

Stan Sharek wounded in a hunting accident.
 George Oberle - hospitalized with pneumonia
 Ashley Ryan paralyzed in car accident.
 Holly in her walk with the Lord.
 Ed Owen's family in his passing.
 Bill Doran who had surgery
 Nancy Hahne who had surgery
 Ed Stencel's family in his passing
 Kay-Sea Conklin, who has Parkinson's



According to legend, three trees grew near Jesus' manger: an olive tree, a palm tree and the fir. The olive offered its fruit to the newborn king, and the palm tree gave its dates.

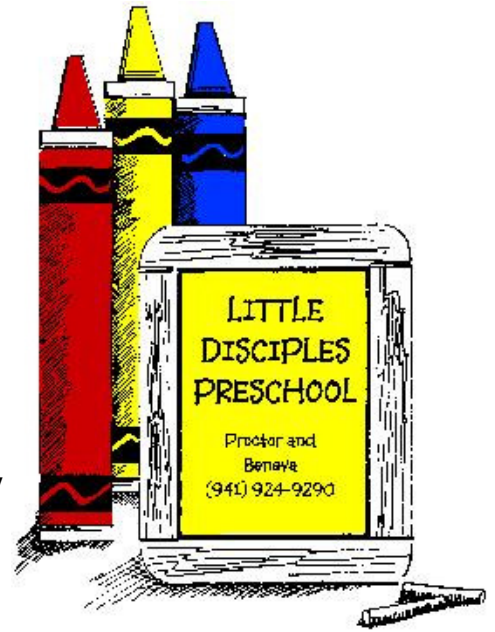
The poor fir, having nothing to give but worship, raised its boughs in adoration, and the angels hung stars on its branches. So the fir became the first Christmas tree.



Little Disciples Preschool's Newsletter

Article for December 2010

November has been a beautiful month for us. We have been very busy going on nature walks, learning about food and so much more and we are enjoying our time on the Outdoor Classroom and the Playground. Before closing for Thanksgiving Break, it is a long-standing tradition for our children to come together for our annual Friendship Feasts where a delicious time was shared by all.



We return from Thanksgiving break to begin stuffing Christmas Stockings with toys for children and much-needed items for their families in our community. Every room has a big, red stocking hanging on the doorknob. Please give only new items. Collecting gifts for others during the holidays is another one of our traditions and one that makes all of us feel a bit like someone's Secret Santa. We have even teamed up with Scholastic Book Club and are collecting new pajama's for children of all ages. Scholastic will donate a new book to go with every pair of pajama's! See the office if you have any questions & find out how you can help those in need this holiday season.

December is a very musical, very EXCITING month here!! Our calendar is bursting with special days. **Did you mark your calendars for the greatest concerts ever?!** On December 9 and 10, Little Disciples Preschool will come together in song for our preschool families at 11:30am. A courtyard cookie reception will follow.

We will end our month with classroom holiday luncheons, lots of special/secret workshops and soooo much fun!!

Pastor Bobby will bring us the Christmas Story in Chapel moments on Dec. 16th & 17th

at 11:45am both days. Parents are always welcome to join us in Chapel Moments and we hope you will be there for this very special BIRTH-day story. School ends on December 17th, and resumes January 3, 2011. We wish you a Merry Christmas & Happy Holidays!

With Love from EVERYONE here at Little Disciples Preschool



Recycling Fundraiser pays for EVERY item (in the categories listed on our price list) no matter what - regardless of whether or not the item(s) work and regardless of whether or not the item's model number is listed on our price list.

- **Cell Phones** (We pay up to \$300 per used cell phone)
- **Jewelry** (We pay the dollar highest amount for scrap metal jewelry)
- **Ink Jet Printer Cartridges** (Up to \$5 per used ink jet)
- **Laptops & Netbooks** (Up to \$350 per used laptop & netbook)
- **MP3 Players** (Up to \$50 per used MP3 Player)
- **Digital Cameras** (Up to \$10 per used digital camera)
- **Digital Video Cameras** (Up to \$25 per used digital camera)
- **GPS Devices** (Up to \$50 per used GPS device)
- **Radar Detectors** (Up to \$50 per used radar detector)
- **Kindle & Sony Book Readers** (Up to \$25 per used Kindle or Sony book reader)

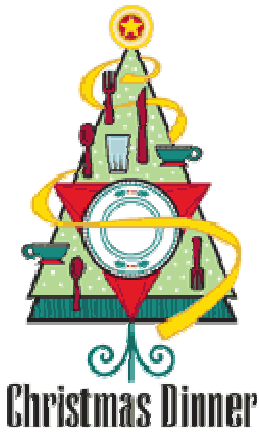
That is, you earn cash for every cell phone, ink jet cartridge, laptop or netbook computer, MP3 Player (Apple iPod, Microsoft Zune, Creative or Sandisk), digital camera, digital video camera, handheld game system (Sony or Nintendo), GPS device (Garmin, Mio, Magellan or TomTom), radar detector (Escort, Beltronics or Cobra), Kindle or Sony book reader or unwanted piece of jewelry you collect including broken items or items not on our list. Prices on our list reflect working items only. Working electronics are electronics that, when tested by Recycling Fundraiser, power up, possess an undamaged LCD screen, make a test call (if applicable), have working internal components including the charge port and are not cracked or otherwise damaged. Non-Working items that appear on our price list will be credited 20% of the corresponding working price. Newer working and non-working electronics not included on our price list will be credited at competitive prices. There is no price deduction for broken jewelry.



Please continue to bring your Aluminum cans to help support our Health Department Fund used to help people in need with medications costs. Cans can be dropped off behind the garage

Beckham's Fundraiser

Don't forget about a great opportunity that awaits you at BECKHAM'S restaurant, located at 1272 S. Tamiami Trail in Osprey, (South Bay Plaza). They will send Beneva Christian Church a check for 15% of your bill for any Sunday noon meal. Simply enjoy a great lunch at BECKHAM'S after church on any Sunday, give your server the name and address of our church, and they will mail the church a check! Their food is delicious and served in generous portions, and the professional yet comfortable atmosphere of Beckham's will have you rushing back for more. We received a very heartfelt 'Thank You' letter from Beckham's for participating in their Brunch Cash back program, as it has helped them get through the financial slumps. They look forward to welcoming us to brunch throughout 2009, and I hope that everyone makes a trip (or two or three) to Beckham's! Take your friends and family along. Enjoy a great meal, great fellowship, and help support our church!!! ☩



**CHRISTMAS DINNER
DECEMBER 17TH
6:00PM**

Bring a dish and come join us. Sign up in the narthex or call the office.

If you need a ride please call the office and we will arrange for a ride.



Wednesday 6:30—8:30pm
Thursday 6:30—8:30pm
Friday 6:30 - 8:30pm

Arrangements are being made to share the Living Nativity this year with the community. Many opportunities are available:

Cookies are needed to serve at entrance - they can be dropped off in kitchen on Tuesday or Wednesday.

Help greeting community and handing out cookies and hot chocolate/coffee on night of Live Nativity.

Also need Shepherds, Kings, Angels, Mary and Joseph for Live Nativity. Please meet in the Fellowship Hall at 6:00pm

PLEASE HELP WITH THIS YEARLY COMMUNITY OUT-REACH PROJECT. HELP BRING THE JOY OF CHRISTMAS TO THE COMMUNITY OF SARASOTA.



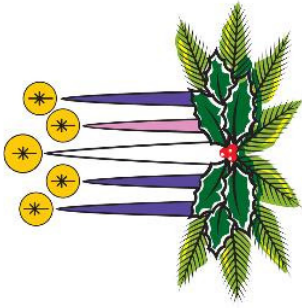
**Thank You
Gail Brodkorb and Lynn Harris for all your
work with the Beneva Food Pantry**

**The Beneva Christian Food Pantry Needs Your
Help!**

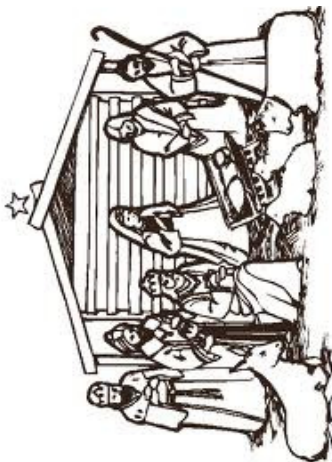
The Food Pantry is undergoing reorganization, restructuring and restocking for the Christmas Holidays. We are asking that, during the next two weeks, you please help us restock our food pantry. Food items can be brought to the narthex and monetary donations can be placed in the offering plate. Please mark your donations: Food pantry. We could also use some more volunteers because of the anticipated need. If you wish to volunteer please contact Jackie Hazen at 918-4814 or the church office. Food is delivered to the church on Thursdays and distributed to those in need on Fridays from 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm.



The candle symbolizes Jesus being the light of the world (John 8:12), as well as his call for Christians to be lights (Matthew 5:14). Candles play a prominent role in the Christmas season. Each candle on an Advent wreath has a special meaning. Many churches have a candlelight worship service on Christmas Eve.

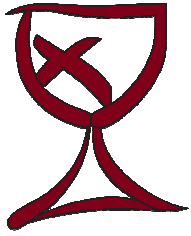


December 2010



Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

			1 6:30 <i>Worship On Wed.</i>	2 12:15-1 <i>Lunch & Learn</i>	3	4
5 <i>2nd Sunday of Advent</i> 9:30 <i>Praise Service</i> 10:45 <i>Bible Study</i> 10:45 <i>Traditional Service</i> 12:00 <i>Blood Pressure</i> 2:00 <i>Hungarian Church</i>	6 7 pm <i>Joshua's Men</i>	7 <i>Life Line Screening</i>	8 6:30 <i>Worship On Wed.</i>	9 12:15-1 <i>Lunch & Learn</i>	10	11
12 <i>3rd Sunday of Advent</i> 9:30 <i>Praise Service</i> 10:45 <i>Bible Study</i> 10:45 <i>Traditional Service</i>	13	14	15 6:30 <i>Worship On Wed.</i>	16 12:15-1 <i>Lunch & Learn</i>	17 3-5 <i>Food Pantry</i> 6:00 pm <i>Christmas Dinner</i>	18
19 <i>Christmas Sunday</i> 9:30 <i>Praise Service</i> 10:45 <i>Bible Study</i> 10:45 <i>Traditional Service</i> 2:00 <i>Hungarian Church</i>	20	21	22 6:30 <i>Worship On Wed.</i>	23 12:15-1 <i>Lunch & Learn</i>	24 7:00 pm <i>Christmas Eve Service</i>	25 <i>Christmas Day</i>
26 9:30 <i>Praise Service</i> 10:45 <i>Bible Study</i> 10:45 <i>Traditional Service</i>	27	28	29 6:30 <i>Worship On Wed.</i>	30 12:15-1 <i>Lunch & Learn</i>	31 3-5 <i>Food Pantry</i> <i>New Year's Eve</i>	



THE GOOD NEWS

December 2010

BENEVA CHRISTIAN CHURCH (Disciples of Christ)
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E-Mail: bccoffice2@verizon.net

Web Site: www.BenevaChristian.com

Sunday Schedule

Contemporary Service	9:30am
Traditional Worship Service (& Nursery)	10:45am
Adult & Youth Bible Study Class	10:45am

What Do Disciples Believe?

Like most Christians, Disciples affirm:

- ♦ Jesus Christ is the son of the Living God, and offers saving grace to all.
- ♦ All persons are God's children.

Beliefs and practices usually associated with Disciples include:

- ♦ *Open Communion.* The Lord's Supper, or Communion, is celebrated in weekly worship. It is open to all believers.
- ♦ *Diversity of opinion.* Each person is free to determine individual belief guided by the Bible, the Holy Spirit, study and prayer.
- ♦ *Baptism by immersion.* In baptism the old self-centered life is set aside, and a new life of trust in God is made possible. Although Disciples generally practice baptism by immersion, they honor other baptism traditions as well.
- ♦ *Importance of church unity.* All Christians should cooperate in ministry wherever possible, affirming each other as sisters and brothers in Christ.
- ♦ *The ministry of all believers.* Both ministers and lay persons lead worship, direct service opportunities and nurture spiritual growth.
- ♦ *Freedom of belief.* Disciples are called together around one essential of faith: belief in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. †



The chalice symbolizes the central place of communion in worship for the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). The X-shaped cross of the disciple Andrew is a reminder of the ministry of each person and the importance of evangelism.

Discover . . . Spiritual growth

Every Disciples congregation meets weekly to worship God. In the warmth of God's presence and with the support of others, we grow in our understanding of God in ways that make a difference in our everyday lives.

Through worship that is both contemporary and traditional, we discover the joy of trusting and following Jesus.

Around the communion table, we acknowledge Christ's presence and remember the meal He shared with His followers. All believers are welcome at the Lord's table.

Whether you are a longtime follower of Jesus Christ, or curious about Christianity, the Christian Church can help you explore Christianity and learn about Christ. †

The Good News is published monthly by
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