

The Bridge Builder

The Newsletter of Wasatch Presbyterian Church
Salt Lake City, Utah www.wpcslc.org

FEBRUARY 2010

Celebration!

This is from both the Stewardship and the Budget and Finance Committees - to share with you some really good news that Jennifer Purdom passed on in worship on January 17th.

In December after the U g u u k q p ø u " d w f i g y g ø f " j c x g " v q < < ' reduce what WPC was paying toward the mortgage by \$2,000/month (\$24,000/yr),

< ' we were cutting all sorts of things out of the budget (totaling an additional \$16,000 in reductions),

< ' the 2010 budget was still \$8,000 in the red after the above \$40,000 in reductions, and as of closing the books in November we were faced with an-q v j g t " & 3 8 . 2 2 2 " q h operating expenses, which would become a negative carryover from 2009 to 2010.

This congregation - this h c k v j h w n " i c v j g t k p i " q h ósaid we can do more, we have to do more. We asked everyone to fulfill their 2009 pledges, and when Carol Rugg closed the books q p " F g e g o d g t " 5 3 . " y g ø f " t g e g k x g f " 98% of the amount pledged for 4 2 2 ; # " " K p " v j k u " g e q p d . (. " v j c v ø u " c u / tounding and truly wonderful. Beyond our regular tithes and offerings, we received and gave away \$45,000 dollars in special offerings for the hungry and hurting in the world.

This was in addition to the \$51,000, our own budgeted tithe, we sent to the PCUSA General Mission.

C u " k h " v j c v " y g on a very, very lean budget. But cause for celebration, we received more pledges for 2010 than 2009, and in the last two weeks of the year, we received new pledges, increased pledges and extra above va'd beyond pledges for 2010. Because of these gifts, indeed, all our gifts, we were able to restore some things that had been reduced/cut in the 2010 budget:

< ' y g " y q p ø v " j c x g the monthly mortgage payments and will still be able to pay \$10,000 a month ówhich means y g " y q p ø v " d g " r c { k Red " v q f q w r k q p w e j p é p f " I q terest and leaving an even larger balloon payment at the end to our children,

< ' and the two part-time clerical positions which had been reduced " 4 2 2 ; ø u " or cut altogether have been restored.

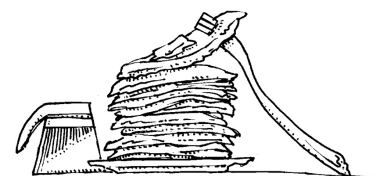
These were the most serious needs. In this new year, the Session is going to have to manage more carefully than ever - on a very, very lean budget. But y g ø t g " e q o o k v v g f " v q " f q lead and guide Wasatch, especially in these tough times, and with I q f ø uar'd all our r prayers, we will.

Y g " m p q y " y g " c t g " I q f people and we give because of I q f ø u " i g p g t q u k v { . " h c k wide, wide mercy. All this good news speaks to how we are and how we act as a congregation. We are strong, we are faithful, we are generous, and we are commit- Red " v q f q w r k q p w e j p é p f " I q that happens through us, here and in the world. Thank you all.

Annual Congregational Meeting

Sunday, February 7, 2010 in the gym. Pancake breakfast provided by the youth begins at 9:45 am. Meeting begins at 10:30 am.

Please join us!!



Acolyte Training

Have acolyte training on Sunday, February 21st during Sunday School for children in the 3rd grade as well as older students who have not attended Acolyte training in the sanctuary for worship is an amazing way to participate in the service.

**Workshop Rotation
Volunteers Needed**

Do you have 2 hours you Elementary Sunday School needs workshop rotation leaders for the Easter Rotation, from February 28th to March 28th. What do you enjoy: drama, puppets, storytelling, cooking, science, art or games? There is a place for you! You may contact Deborah to volunteer or for more information, 801-487-7576 or dparr@wpcslc.org.

**Camp Highlands,
5th & 6th Grade
Summer Camp
Informational Meeting**

Join us for an important meeting on Sunday, February 28th at 12:30 p.m. This meeting is for parents of children who will be attending the **5th or 6th grade in the FALL 2010**. Kids going to camp are also welcome to join us. Please RSVP to Deborah Parr, 801-487-7576 or dparr@wpcslc.org. This is a fabulous opportunity for our 5th and 6th summer schedule will allow for this wonderful experience.

**Wasatch Presbyterian
Preschool 2010-2011
Registration**

Want to register your child for this wonderful program? Registration deadline for new students is March 1st. You may complete a registration form in the preschool office, find one at the church reception desk or print one off of their website. (You will find a link to the preschool website thru our website, wpcslc.org)

Save the Date

Vacation Bible School:

**Sunday, June 6th ó
Wednesday, June 9th**

We will continue with the family format beginning Sunday afternoon and continuing in the evenings Mon.-Wed. More information coming soon!

*Easter Egg Hunt:
Saturday, April 3rd*

*Camp Highlands
(rising 5th & 6th graders),
July 25 ó 30th.*

Would you like to get not sure of your time or how to offer your gifts, call me, together we can determine your best fit!

With February marking the beginning of lent, I challenge you as a family to slow down and family time. May your sacrifice become a blessing! Enjoy!

February Social and Luncheon

"Dead Right," a 10-minute play by our own Elaine Jarvik, will be performed by our own Stacey Riekof at the upcoming meeting of Presbyterian Women on Thursday, Feb. 4. "Dead Right" was produced in Louisville, Kentucky as part of the 2008 Humana Festival of New American Plays. In the play, a friend's flawed obituary propels Penny and her husband Bill into a prickly conversation about how they might be remembered.

Please join us on Feb. 4. Socializing begins at 11:30, with lunch at noon and the play to begin about 12:30. After that, our author and actress will take questions.

The cost for lunch is \$4. Please make reservations by Monday, Feb. 1, with Lois C. Jones at 801-487-1132 or by e-mail loisc.jones5@gmail.com

YWCA donations

Presbyterian Women will be accepting donations for the YWCA "young women's extended shelter" at our March 4th luncheon. If you would like to help but will not be attending the March luncheon, donation boxes marked YWCA will be available Sunday, February 21 and Sunday, February 28 in Fellowship Hall and the First Floor Office Entrance. Most needed items are twin mattress covers, car seats, and umbrella strollers (used-good condition) Used good dishes, silverware, pots and pans. Cleaning supplies (at the dollar store) Also telephone gift cards with both local and international calls. New clothes items for all ages. h g ø u " e t c | k p g u u 0 " " t g r Your help will be most welcome for questions and a more complete list of items needed see website at wpcslc.org or call Judy at 801-277-0536.

Pastor Nominating Committee

The Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) is up and running, and is meeting every week on Sunday immediately following the 11:15 AM worship service. A Mission Study Report was completed prior to PNC starting its deliberations. This report will be of considerable help to the PNC from the standpoint of knowing what the congregation wants, both in terms of a new pastor and existing and future programs. The R P E ø u " e w t t g p v " v c u m " J e a n P a y n e H a i g t q M e n i l e e g Y k r r g t o c p ø u " o q v j 25, 2010. Services will be held on Fri. February 11. Please keep friends and fam- j g " E q o o k v v g g ø u "

goal is to have this completed prior to the end of February. Once the CIF has been approved, it will be sent to USAPC headquarters, and then disseminated to all pastors that are looking for a position as Pastor & Head of Staff. The PNC will then begin receiving Personal Information Forms from any and all candidates. It will likely take at least 6 months for the PNC to review these forms and make tentative recommendations. Please keep the PNC in your prayers.

Deadlines!!!!

If you would like your information published, it must be turned in before the deadlines listed below.

Bulletin Announcements

are due to Tri Revie at trerie@wpcslc.org by Wednesday at 12 Noon.

Bridge builder announcements

to Shana Masih at shana@wpcslc.org by the 15th of each month.

Community Night

Community night makes a one night comeback Ash Wednesday at 6:15 pm. Soup and salad provided by the congregational life. Please join us!!



Services were held on January 30 at 11:00 am in memory of Jean Bartlett. Services will be held on Fri. February 11.

Please keep friends and families in your prayers.

Chiang Mai Mission Trip

Monday, January 25, was the first day at the Chiang Mai School. Paul Hewitt brought a slide projector and slides of Utah and the Chiang Mai School as it looked in 1996 to show to the students today.

Tonight we were taken out to dinner to a Thai restaurant that had traditional dancers after dinner, followed by members from native tribes doing their dances. This restaurant is largely outdoors and all the seating in the open middle is on the ground. Luckily for us Westerners they had tables along the sides, under covers. We are told that these native dancers are the real thing and the only ones in Chiang Mai so it was a treat to see their dances.

**Wasatch Presbyterian Church
12/31/2009 Status of the Operating Fund**



Income	Budget to Date	Actual to Date	Difference	Annual Income Budget
Pledges	601,000	592,651	(8,349)	601,000
Loose Offering	50,000	34,887	(15,113)	50,000
Per Capita	7,500	7,025	(475)	7,500
Other Income	66,630	79,458	12,828	66,630
Thanks Be To God	1,000	1,725	725	1,000
Planned Transfers	39,000	40,422	1,422	39,000
Extra Princ. Rec'd	-	16,355	16,355	-
Totals	765,130	772,523	7,393	765,130

Expenses	Budget to Date	Actual to Date	Difference	Annual Expense Budget
Program	554,158	532,665	21,493	554,158
Mission	55,600	52,751	2,849	55,600
Utilities	31,550	28,053	3,497	31,550
Mort. Interest	58,300	56,071	2,229	58,300
Per Capita	15,420	18,509	(3,089)	15,420
Totals	715,028	688,049	26,979	715,028

NET DIFFERENCE 50,102 84,474 34,372 50,102

Planned Carryover	7,084	7,084	-	7,084
Budg. Princ. Paid	(51,700)	(53,929)	(2,229)	(51,700)
Extra Princ. Paid	-	(16,355)	(16,355)	-
CASH FLOW	5,486	21,274	15,788	5,486

Practice Makes Perfect

¹³Brothers, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, ¹⁴I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus. **Philippians 3:13-14**

Dear Friends:

Lent, the season that marks the forty days leading to Easter (Paschal), has been observed for centuries. The early practices of the ancient church embraced the ideals of sacrifice and penitence to be reminded of the wilderness of some kind, not even God. Loss and difficulties are a part of our existence. The ancients incorporated the element of focusing on loss and mourning as a way to worship, discipline and maintain readiness for difficult transitions in their own lives and history. By following the steps of Christ through lent, the ideals of sacrifice and penitence offered strength and hope leading to the future.

Lent is a discipline, a practice and eventually an art or way to apply living and dying through the experiences of loss that accompany transitions. Lent may not come on a calendar, but the seasons of birth, death, resurrection; generation, de-generation, re-generation; orientation, dis-orientation, and re-orientation are the patterns that follow our history and personal experience. This is a pattern modeled in the very person and life of Jesus.

The spiritual practice of applying a time and frame to all that leads us to new life is a path of acknowledgement, change, loss and sometimes death. Our society has gone through major changes in the last few years. Loss has come to society. Historians remark that we have been through epoch change in the transition into the current millennia. Change associated with modernism, postmodernism, artificial intelligence, computer-driven acceleration, mobility, economic hardship and joblessness. We have struggled to understand that even our planet suffers from loss. Things we have relied on in the past, no longer work or apply. Change, loss, and uncertainty are signs of the time.

With all our strength coming from God, we are able to recall through the suffering and death of Christ that new life will come. It takes practice.

As Wasatch Presbyterian Church continues to transition along with society and human civilization, we reflect, worship and journey toward the new creation in Christ through

Then practice of letting go of the past and reaching toward the future.

Begin the journey with us on Ash Wednesday, on February 17, at 7:30pm.



The Book Corner

Our library collection includes many books which explore different traditions. A new addition in the "Prayers & Meditations" section is *The Celtic Vision: Prayers and Blessings from the Outer Hebrides*. This lyrical and engaging selection from the original oral collection introduces us to Celtic spirituality through hymns and blessings, poems and invocations, which are all ultimately prayers of a praying that grew out of the life itself." Read the introduction, catch the Celtic fascination with threes, then dip into the book here and there as the spirit moves you, and enjoy.

The library also has a large collection of "Bible and religion study aids" which includes background history/geography for other traditions. Many are not as stuffy as this may sound. *The Illustrated Atlas of Jewish History* just published in 2004 is a good example of this type. Beautiful and clear maps, photos and reproductions of cartoons, this book provides an overview of the Jewish experience from Abraham to modern Israel.

In our own tradition of Christianity, you might like to try *From Jesus to Christianity* by L. Michael White. The book and the author were the primary resource for the PBS special, "From Jesus to Christ," which some of you may have caught during the Advent season. The book is not the usual "New Testament-Early church history." White does take a historical approach, but sets the book in the context of archaeology and cultural history. Organized by following four generations of roughly forty years each after Jesus, he can speak to the gospels and letters of the New Testament in the context of their times. Accurate but not smothered in "academia."

-Beth Phillips, Librarian