

A Newsletter from the
Old State Road Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
Of Charleston, Illinois
December 4, 2008

The Disciple Harbinger



FROM PASTOR PHIL

Advent - a season to prepare for the coming of the Christ child

A - Acquiring
D - deep
V - value
E - engaging
N - Nativity's
T - truth

How shall we greet and enter into the celebrated birthday of Jesus? Where will our focus be? What makes the difference for us as the Body of Christ? Let us answer from our hearts.

Agape,
Phil

FROM STUDENT PASTOR ALLISSA

Dear Friends and Family,

Grace and peace to each of you in the name of Jesus Christ who is, who was, and who is to come!

What a great joy and blessing it is to be a part of this congregation in this season of Advent. The word advent comes from the Latin *advenir*. This word literally means "to come to." The holy season before us affords the Christian community a time to prepare our hearts, minds, and souls for the coming anew of Jesus into our lives and world. We often think of Advent as the time of year when we prepare only for the celebration of Christ's birth. That of course is an important emphasis of the season.

However, the season and the scripture readings and teachings associated with it, are also concerned with the second advent (second coming) of Christ. Beyond that, we should be cognizant of the fact that Jesus can and will come anew into our lives each and every day if we will only invite him to do so. Indeed, every day provides the potential for Christ to come to us in new ways than perhaps we have experienced before. As we enter into this holy season of watching, waiting, and anticipating let us be alert to all the ways God in Christ comes to us.

Shalom,
Pastor Allissa

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

Those lighting during the Advent Season are:

December 7, 2008	Jim Wells & Kaye Woodward
December 14, 2008	Doug, Kelly, Garrett & Eva Bacon
December 21, 2008	Trish Haworth & Paul Briggerman and family
December 28, 2008	Stan & Maggie Huffman

PAMPERED CHEF FUNDRAISER

Support the Local Food Pantry this holiday season while enjoying tasty treats, purchasing Christmas gifts of those on your list and/or items for your own kitchen! This Saturday, December 6th from 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. All proceeds and donations will go to the Charleston Food Pantry, helping feed our community! There will also be a non-perishable food items collections bin.

CHRISTMAS CHOIR CONTATA

Will be held on Sunday, December 21st during worship. Come hear the beautiful voices as they sing praises to the Lord.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

Will be held at 7:00 p.m. at the church. Come light a candle for the coming of Jesus, our Lord, celebrating His first coming as a baby, and to come again in all His glory.

DECORATING THE CHURCH FOR ADVENT

Will be done this Saturday, December 6th at 9:00 a.m. All hands are needed to prepare the sanctuary and church for the Advent Season as we celebrate the birth of our Savior and King. Please be sure to put upon your calendars and make your hands available to Jesus.

ADVENT DEVOTIONS

The "Partners in Prayer" Advent devotionals may be picked up from the back table of the sanctuary.

CHRISTMAS SPECIAL OFFERING

Will be collected on Sunday, December 14th & 21st. The money goes to the Regional office to support ministries of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

POCKET MONEY MISSION

November & December will be collecting for the Coalition for People in Need of Coles County.

ELDER BREAKFAST

Will be on Saturday, December 13, 2008 at 8:30 a.m. for breakfast and 9:00 a.m. for study.

MINISTERING WITH AN ATTITUDE OF GRATITUDE AND ENCOURAGEMENT

This new ministry is a time to share by writing a note of appreciation, etc. to someone who has touched you in a special way and blessed you or maybe needs encouragement. There were 25 notes written and mailed in November, **a ministry of love.**

FOOD PANTRY AND SOUP STOP OUTREACH DAYS

Please bring to the church on Sunday, December 7th & 14th, **jars of peanut butter**, and/or **individual microwavable soups**. for **Soup Stop**; and/or **money is most needed** and/or **flour** and/or **tomato sauce** for **Food Pantry**.

BOARD OF ELDERS MEETING (OPEN TO ALL MEMBERS)

The next Board of Elders meeting will be held on **Wednesday, December 10th** at 6:30 p.m. Please have all reports into the office for the booklet **no later than Tuesday, December 9th**.

MEN'S LUNCHEON & SCRIPTURE STUDY

Please check bulletins and Phil for information concerning luncheon.

NEXT HARBINGER

The next Harbinger will be mailed on **Thursday, January 2nd**. Please have all items into the office no later than **Tuesday, December 30th**. Thank you.

SHUT-IN COMMUNION MINISTRY

If you or someone you know would like to receive communion on **Sunday, December 7, 2008**, please call the church office at **345-3003**. If no one answers, please leave a message on the voice mail that you would like to receive communion on this Sunday. This will be greatly appreciated. Whenever you would like to receive communion from the Shut-in Communion Ministry, please let the church office know. It is done the first Sunday of each month.

PRAYER LIST

Those to lift up in prayer: Jon Adams, Doris Lloyd, Diane Wright, Sara Henry, Margaret Cresch, Connor McManus (a baby in South Carolina), Robert Connour, Chris Merrell, Roy O'Hearn, Kay Etnire, Rob Spence, Libby Coffey, Chuck & June Davidson, Sharon Thomas, Evan Delude (Iraq), Marilyn Walk, Gina Giberson, Jill Baldwin, Carl Maples, Sharon Holderfield, Search & Call Committee, Karen Brading, Ron Brown, Wanda Gregg, George H. Denham, Louise Ernst & family, Shirley & John Melton, Chris Olson, Bob Taylor, Brad Cothren, Aron Miller, Kevin James. If you know of someone who needs to be added to or removed from this list, please contact **Nancy Oakley or Kathleen Beck**. **We are all called to pray, whether we know this person, who they are or what the need is for them, God knows.**

CHURCH'S VISION AND MISSION STATEMENTS

SG-C Serving and Growing through Christ

PLEASE ALL CHAIRPERSONS, CHECK YOU BOXES REGULARLY!!!

FIRST TIME VISITORS NOVEMBER 2008

Thelma Briggs
Beth Green

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Choir – Thursday – 6:00 p.m.
Children's Church School Class–Sun.–9:30 a.m.
Worship – Sunday – 9:30 a.m.

CONTINUING CHURCH OUTREACH

Soup Stop to help every Thursday from 10:30 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. – 2 or 3 are needed – if would like to help please call the church office.

Brownies led by Kathy Zuniga meets twice monthly, 1st and 3rd Wednesdays.

SERVING THE LORD FOR DECEMBER 2008

WORSHIP LEADERS

December 7 Mike Chron
December 14 Patty Maples
December 21 Doug Bacon
December 28 Lloyd Koontz

ELDERS

Lloyd Koontz, Paul Slifer
Gayle Strader, Mike Strader
Cindy Maples, Trish Haworth
Stan Huffman, Mike Chron

DIACONATE FOR DECEMBER 2008

SERVE

Nancy Oakley
Velma Spence
Jim Wells
Maggie Huffman

PREPARE

Nancy Oakley
Maggie Huffman

GREETERS & ACOLYTES

Velma Spence
Jim Wells
Eva Bacon, Kristyn Haworth,
Madison Endsley, Emily Zuniga

ELDER SHUT-IN DECEMBER 7, 2008

Lloyd Koontz, Paul Slifer

DECEMBER 2008 BIRTHDAYS

December 5	Gladys Cole
December 8	Chase Staggs
December 17	Celena Sims
December 19	Ashley Slifer
December 23	Les Trueblood
December 31	Alyson Mott

BIRTHDAY & ANNIVERSARY UPDATES

If your birthday or anniversary dates are not mentioned & you attend regularly, please let the office know.

DECEMBER 2008 ANNIVERSARYS

December 5	Charles & Gladys Cole
December 17	Bill & Laurie Olson
December 23	Doug & Kelly Bacon
December 28	Bob & Kathy Zuniga

COFFEE/JUICE FELLOWSHIP SERVERS FOR DECEMBER

Those serving the coffee/juice will be Congregational Life Committee.



**A NEWSLETTER OF THE
OLD STATE ROAD CHRISTIAN CHURCH
(DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)**

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www.disciplesofchrist.org

Rev. Philip Nevius, Pastor
Allissa Williams, Student Pastor
Vicki Trueblood, Facilitator
Linda Thornton, Office Manager

Join us every Sunday for Worship at 9:30 a.m.

Children's Church School during Worship 9:30 a.m.

Office hours are - Tuesday - Friday, 9-3

*Growing in God's Love in a Spirit of
Tolerance, Diversity, and Inclusion*