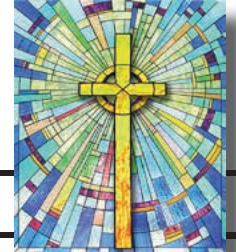




The Heartline

Covenant Presbyterian Church "Loving God by Serving Others"
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"Where Hearts are Warmed"

January 2015



Christmas Eve Live Nativity and Candlelight Service

December 24, 2014 ❖ 6:00 P.M.

Covenant Presbyterian Church ❖ 1001 NW 98th Street
352-332-0400 ❖ covenantpresbyterianchurch.com

On Dec 13th, John Ebbs organized a work session to assemble the stage and stable for the Christmas Eve service. Besides Covenant members, the group, included Mr. Baker and his crew and Abiding Savior members. Pictures are on [page 4](#).

Annual Meeting

The Session has called for the Annual Meeting of the Congregation to be held on January 26th after the worship service.



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Youth Report

We had a successful “Breakfast with Santa” on December 13th, with 14 children in attendance. Thanks to Norm Farmer, who represented Santa that day, and to the Paulins (Joy, Bryan, Johannah, and Violet), Debbi Alessi, and Wendy Firman for all the arrangements and food preparation. We also want to acknowledge donations from Publix and Fresh Market that contributed to the meal.

Future plans include another dinner for the residents of Ronald McDonald House early next year and a craft sale later in the spring.



Fellowship

THANK YOU to the many hands that prepared and cleaned up from wonderful meals for CommUnity Dinner, Snack & Pack, Hanging of Greens and Youth lunch. Thanks also to Susan Nimmo, who included Fellowship Hall when the greens were hung.

The committee will be supporting the Christmas Eve service by feeding a chili supper to the participants beforehand and goodies, including hot apple cider and coffee, to those attending to help them warm up afterwards.

Join us for the December Celebration Sunday on the 28th and the January event on the 25th of that month. Have some cake and help us recognize the folks who are having birthdays.

The CommUnity Dinner after worship on January 4th will feature Ivy House Chicken, cheesy potatoes, green salad, and dessert. Come share in this time together.

Worship and Music

Though Thanksgiving Day is past, this month we have many thanks to offer to the people who do so much to organize, prepare, and participate in the services at Covenant.

Thanks to the Buchholz JROTC Flag Corps for their participation in our Veterans' Day celebration on November 9th.

Thanks to Janis Bomar, our liturgist for December.

Thanks to the families who led the lighting of our Advent Candles: the Ebbs, Tuckers, Spanglers, and Paulins.

Thanks to Kay Ebbs and Brittany Roughton, who organized and advertized our Christmas Eve Service, and to Danny Bowers, who designed flyers that were mailed to area homes and posted a Facebook notice to promote it.

Thanks in advance to Kathy Fishel, who will be the January liturgist.

Thanks to each of you who lend your presence and your voices in song as we worship.

Scenes from the stage construction



Meditation Trail - Happy New Year!

As we begin this new year trying to remember to write 2015, it's a great time to give a special thanks to Jim Annis (ASLC). Last fall, a 14" diameter tree fell across the trail right at the end of one of the foot bridges. Jim, in his usual spirit of helping anywhere help is needed, came out on his birthday last month (12/8/14) to cut the trunk into moveable pieces. Thanks Jim!



January is a great month for being able to see “through” the woods, since many of the leaves have fallen. You may still see a few late blooming flowers on the hybrid bromeliads with the pink flower spikes (*Aechmea* ‘Lyman Smith’) at several places along the original loop, the speckled bromeliads (*Billbergia* ‘Pixie’) opposite the meditation benches area, and the succulent *Aloe arborescens* near the row of rocks.

This month I am ordering several loads of mulch from GRU - time to work off that Christmas dinner! If you are willing to help spread it out - even on your birthday, contact me or the church office and I'll make sure you are notified when we have our mulch movers' party. The mulch could arrive anytime during the next three months - whenever the GRU crews are clearing power lines on this side of Gainesville.



Aechmea 'Lyman Smith'



Billbergia 'Pixie'



Aloe



January 2015 Calendar

- | | | | | | |
|--------|---|------------------------------|--------|---|------------------------------|
| Su, 4 | - | Worship at 10
Souper Bowl | Su, 18 | - | Worship at 10 |
| | - | Fellowship at 11 | | - | Fellowship at 11 |
| Tu, 6 | - | Flute Ensemble at 7 | | - | Harbor Chase Devotions at 2 |
| Th, 8 | - | Koinonia Small Group at 7:30 | Tu, 20 | - | Heartline deadline |
| Su, 11 | - | Worship at 10 | | - | Flute Ensemble at 7 |
| | - | Fellowship at 11 | Th, 22 | - | Koinonia Small Group at 7:30 |
| | - | Session Mtg at 7 | Su, 25 | - | Sunday School at 9:15 |
| Tu, 13 | - | Flute Ensemble at 7 | | - | Worship at 10 |
| Th, 15 | - | Heartline deadline | | - | Annual Meeting following |
| | - | Koinonia Small Group at 7:30 | | - | Fellowship at 11 |
| | | | Tu, 27 | - | Flute Ensemble at 7 |
| | | | Th, 29 | - | Koinonia Small Group at 7:30 |

January Birthdays

12 - Walt Wollam

26 - John Peters

31 - BJ Kuhn

(No anniversaries this month.)

2015 Session

Debbi Alessi

Janis Bomar

John Ebbs

Larry Herrington

Susan Nimmo

Dorothy Spangler

John Tucker

The Heartline is published monthly. You may submit articles either handwritten, typed, or on disk (saved in text or Word format) and delivered to the church office.

Deadline for the next newsletter is
January 15, 2015.

If you have a question about submitting an article for *The Heartline*, please call John Tucker.