



# First Presbyterian Church of Hemet

## FIRST WORD

January 1, 2010

Sundays, come join us for...

- 9:00 am  
The Heritage Service in the Chapel — Old time hymns and verse by verse Bible Study
- 10:00—10:30 am  
Fellowship on the Patio
- 10:30 am  
The Sanctuary Service

### Pastor's Column

Dear Friends,

It's a new year, a new decade and a new opportunity to start afresh. While we can't do everything at once, a little bit everyday will get us a long ways. I want to challenge you to push yourself just a little bit each day in a couple of areas. The first area is finances. We need to raise an additional \$22,000 for 2010 to maintain the present level of ministry that we have. With 315 or so members, that's less than \$10 a month from each one. Can you spare even \$10 a month?



Pastor Larry Thorson

Secondly, starting February 21 and continuing through Lent I'll be preaching a sermon series entitled "The Jesus Creed".

The Jesus Creed is "love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul and mind and love your neighbor as yourself." This creed has massive implications for us as individuals and for our church corporately. We will be offering small groups of 10-12 people meeting in homes or in the church facility to study how this great creed impacts how we live and how we make decisions. These groups will meet for six consecutive weeks. Would you consider committing six weeks of 90 minutes a meeting to the Lord during Lent? Sign ups will begin in early February.

Finally, thank you for your support of our youth in their fundraising for Winter Camp at Forest Home. This year we'll be taking 32 students, the largest number of students we've ever taken to Forest Home in the history of our church. The Wednesday night youth clubs are now spilling over to Sunday morning as our church becomes the home church for many of these new students. From what I've read and experienced, this is a generation that for the most part hasn't been raised in the faith. We are so blessed to get such an opportunity to see the fruit of the harvest week after week with this younger generation. What an exciting time to serve our Lord.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Larry Thorson

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## FLOWERS FOR CHRISTMAS

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*The Beautiful Poinsettias adorning the chancel this Christmas were donated by the following:*

*Wilma Boyer in memory of Richard Boyer, Charles Gibbons & William Gelbfried.*

*William & Alta Bradow in memory of son, Terry Lee Bradow.*

*Bob & Lynn Browning in honor of their parents.*

*Frances Cline in memory of Earl Cline.*

*Bill & Jewel Cook in memory of loved ones.*

*Phyllis Evans in memory of Robert Evans and son Bob Evans.*

*Roy & Pat Goodberry in memory of our parents and in honor of our children.*

*Don Ingwersen in memory of Carmen.*

*John & Rachel Kolasz in memory of Helen Scott.*

*Tom & Linda McMorran in memory of loved ones and in honor of loved ones.*

*Leo & Barbara Reed in honor of our families - young and old!*

*Betty J. Rousell in memory of my parents, Clayton & Lucia Snow.*

*Carl Rousell in memory of Ernest & Lillian Rousell and in honor of the American Military.*

*Susan Stone in memory of my parents George & Gladys Stone.*

*Bob & Martha Vieten in memory of Clarence & Edna Vieten and Larry Sorensen.*

*Dale & Peggy Wales in memory of David B. McMorran (Peggy's father), Claude R. Wales (Dale's father) and Dorothy Jean*

*Pommitt.*

*Jim and Kathy Warren in memory of Ed & Eva Harvey and Claude & Lola Warren.*

Please be in prayer for Barbara Arr, Dick Babbitt, Del Brunson, Charles Burritt, Charles Chase, Monta Davis, Sally DeBrask, Homer Erickson, Elaine Greco, Frank Greco, Ruby Johnson, Bill Kauffmann, Vera Murphy Darlene Penhalurick, Joe Smayda and Jerry Stewart who are recovering from illness or surgery. Also pray for the family of the late Albert (Gene) Perry who has gone home to the Lord.

## Birthdays

January 1	Neil Vandruff
January 2	Bonnie Pumphrey
January 3	Ryle Johnson
January 7	Fran Groff
January 9	Caren Newman Marion Newman
January 10	Alicia Dashiell
January 11	Mary Ellen Van Ostenbridge
January 12	John Johannes
January 15	Patti Berenschot
January 16	James Durkin Flora Johnson Char Weakley
January 20	Catherine Howard
January 22	Peter J. DeBroyn
January 24	Sequoyah Dawes
January 25	Wilma Boyer
January 26	Kathy Fagan
January 27	Jennie Evans Bonnie Hansen
January 29	Brenda Brothers Maria Emery
January 30	Susanne Howard



## Anniversaries

January 9

Ken & Fran Groff — 64 years

## Presbyterian Women

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It has been said that First Presbyterian Church of Hemet has one of the most active Women's Associations in the entire Riverside Presbytery. A look at what has been accomplished over the past year will certainly bear that out. We have been busy and have made many contributions to other programs in the church.

Our major fundraisers were the Spring Clothing Sale and the Fall Housewares sale. Even with the economic hardships, we have been able to raise close to \$10,000 this year. We thank Darlene and Bob Clark and Bonnie Hansen for being the team for these events. Additional fundraisers such as the "Sweet Treats", "Yesterday's Fashions" DVD sales and the beautiful recipe cookbook may add over an additional \$1,000 to help meet our budgeted commitments.

Projects have included making Fellowship Hall kitchen improvements, including new kitchen equipment. Improvements were made to the Family Center, making it possible to obtain a kitchen use permit there. We provided all of the decorations, linens, dessert, beverages and invitations for the Centennial Celebration in February. During the Vacation Bible School, we were happy to be able to provide lunches for the helpers. In addition, greeting cards are sent to church members during times of illness or bereavement.

We now have five active circles, three of which meet during the day and two which meet in the evenings. Circles are responsible for greeting on Sunday mornings for the 10:30 am worship service, hostess our monthly luncheon gatherings, and help with receptions. We also hosted the Church Women United's World Day of Prayer and attended PWP and Church Women United meetings at other area churches.

This summer, we were able to send two members to Louisville, Kentucky for the 2009 Presbyterian Women Churchwide Gathering. Patty Werley and Shirley Jouglard returned home with a lot of enthusiasm and information to share, as "God Will Do Great Things Among You" was the theme for the Gathering.

Please join us on Friday, January 8th at 11:30 am for our first 2010 PW Luncheon in Fellowship Hall.

Patty Werley & Joyce Emery, PW Co-

Moderators

## LETTERS OF THANKS

I wish to thank all those who served communion this past year, the youth who lit candles, including Rosie who was faithful most Sundays and Dianna and Michael Christmas Eve. Special thanks to those who lit the Advent wreath on Sundays and Christmas Eve. And finally, I really appreciated all who helped to decorate the church for Easter and Christmas. There were many wonderful compliments on how lovely the church looked for Christmas this year.

I will be needing help on January 9th as we undecorate the church. We especially need someone who is able to climb the tall ladder.

Again, many thanks and God Bless!

Evelyn Demeaux, Elder for Worship Committee

Dear Church Family,

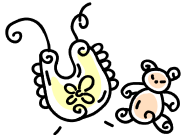
We wish to express our thanks to all of you for your prayers and support during Doris' recent hospitalization. She had heart surgery at the University of Washington Hospital on November 30th. The operation was a complete success, and she is now home and resting comfortably. Because her doctors wish her to stay close, we will need to remain in Seattle for another two months or so. We look forward to catching up with all of you once we are able to return to Hemet.

Doris & Don Silva

Thanks to my church family and the Chancel Choir for your prayers, cards, calls, meals and thoughtfulness during my convalescence. I am getting stronger every day and am looking forward to returning to church and choir. May God bless you for your kindness.

Joe Smayda

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!



The Discipleship Ministry wishes to thank you for your donations of baby items for the Hemet Valley Medical Center.

The nurses in OB services were very appreciative, and we are sure the recipients will be also.

## Music Notes

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From Mary Ellen

By the time you receive this, the Christmas season will be over, and we will be looking forward to 2010.

An article that appeared in the Readers' Digest from Rebecca Munsterer might convince you to re-evaluate how you trim your tree next year:



### What Your Christmas Tree Says About You:

1. White lights - You ask houseguests to remove their shoes.
2. Multicolored lights - You're an extrovert.
3. Blinking lights - You have attention deficit disorder.
4. Homemade ornaments - You have lots of children.
5. Strung popcorn - You have too much time on your hands.
6. Red balls only - You wish you lived in a department store.
7. Yellow star on top - You're traditional.
8. Cutoff top - You didn't measure the tree.
9. Vague evergreen smell - You bought a healthy tree.
10. Strong evergreen smell - You sprayed your tree with Pine-Sol.
11. Just plain smelly - There's a dead bird in your tree.

As we look from Christmas past and before we get to Christmas Future, here's a thought from my favorite author, A.W. Tozer, that I read in his biography written by James L. Snyder:

"Someone has advanced the idea that if we would have a revival, we should begin to sing; that revivals always come on the wings of song. It is true that revivals and song go together; but the song is the effect of the revival, never the cause of it. Men are not revived because they sing; they sing because they are revived. It is coldness of heart that has caused us to lose the joy and zest from our singing. The revived heart will soon burst into song."

May our hearts be revived and burst into song as we look towards a brand new year! And, by the way, some of you need to sing your way to the choir!!!

**Mary Ellen Van Ostenbridge**  
**Director of Music**



### THE SPRING SALE

The Spring Sale will be held on [March 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup>, 2010](#). Donations of clothing, shoes, purses, and jewelry can be dropped off at the Family Center beginning [January 14<sup>th</sup> thru March 1<sup>st</sup> on Mondays and Thursdays from 9:30am - 11:30am.](#)

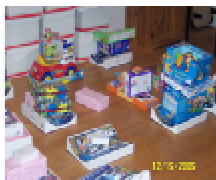
The first work day is [January 11<sup>th</sup> at 9:30am](#). If you wish to volunteer or have questions, contact

[Darlene Clark at 325-7173 or Susan Gray at 652-3838.](#)



### Community Outreach & Home Away From Home Christmas Party

Thanks to the generosity of the members of the church and community, we were able to enjoy fellowship with members of our community and give back. At this year's Family Center Christmas Party, we gave out over 200 toys to children in need. The children that participate in Home Away From Home program worked as the Lord's helpers and gave out the toys. One of the children, Luz, said "I really enjoyed seeing how happy the kids were when we gave them their presents." Words cannot express the feelings of joy and excitement for all that were in attendance. A special thanks goes to the Family Center Advisory Board and the Family Center parent group for all their hard work. And thanks to all that donated to the toy drive, especially The Soboba Tribal Council who donated over 200 toys and canned goods to the Family Center.



Have a Blessed New Year,

Coach M. Carter



<b>Staff</b>		<b>On the World Wide Web</b>	<b>Partners In Mission</b>
Pastor/Head of Staff	Rev. Dr. Larry Thorson	<a href="http://www.hemetpresbyterian.org">www.hemetpresbyterian.org</a>	Dr. John & Dianne Fowler — Turkey
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Activities Director	“Coach” Mel Carter	(Jeannette Simmons)	Valley Restart — San Jacinto Valley
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# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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