

Grace Presbyterian Church Newsletter

105 Bailey Rd., Crystal City, MO, 63019 636-937-3019
www.gracechurch-pcusa.org for prayer list, sermons, and more

January, 2011

Gracie Allen and her husband, George Burns, for years were a class act of radio and TV comedy. As we go into the New Year, here's Gracie Allen's Recipe for Roast Beef. "One large roast of beef. One small roast of beef. Take the two roasts and put them in the oven. When the little one burns, the big one is done."

Epiphany is the season of the Christian year during which we celebrate the revelation, or epiphany, of the Christ child to the Magi, or the Three Kings, who symbolize us gentiles, or non-Jews. Jesus is meant for the salvation of all who respond in faith worldwide! Epiphany lasts from Jan. 6 to Ash Wednesday, which is the beginning of Lent. The color in worship during Epiphany is green.

The **Joy Offering** taken prior to Christmas amounted to \$768! Thanks to all who were able to give.

Postings. "My sincere thanks to all who gave sympathy, sent cards & offered prayers for my beloved wife Monica during her illness and death." **Don Hetherington...** "My family and I wish to thank all who gave us the kindness & love needed during the recent death of my husband, Jim Sweet. The cards, prayers, & sympathy were truly appreciated." **Pat Sweet...** "Thanks for your prayers, cards, phone calls, and visits after my surgery. I appreciate it. I am in PT and look forward to the completion of my healing." **Marcia Denison.**

Meal-a-month donations to the Rescue Mission include pasta, tomato sauce, paper plates, and toothbrushes. Donations will be collected Sunday, January 30.

Annual Congregational Meeting at the conclusion of the worship service on Jan. 30. We will vote on the proposed GEM changes, look at the budget for 2011, as well as ministry unit reports, and elect one more deacon for the Class of 2013.

New members were received in January, **Roger & Mollie Brewer, Gary & Muriel Stephens.** Please get acquainted with these two new couples and make them feel welcome at Grace!

Youth Group. Youth are meeting at 9:30a.m. on Sundays three times a month, and then having an evening activity once/month. Call Terry at 314-322-2449.

Alpha Course. The spring Alpha Course (10 weeks) will begin March 1, Tuesday evening, with dinner at 6:15. Invite your friends. Sign-up by calling Liz at the church office, 937-3019.

A Life Worth Living (9 weeks) is a course for those who have taken Alpha. It also begins with dinner, March 1, Tues., at 6:15. Call Liz at the church office, 937-3019.

Children's Sunday School (GPS) is investigating the "Miracles of Jesus" in its present rotation. All children welcome! Kirk Jackson is leading the children's singing!

Adult Sunday School. One class is studying "The Present Word" curriculum, a second is discussing the Serendipity Study Bible. All adults welcome!

The Blood Drive at Grace on Jan. 3 resulted in 15 units with two new donors. Thanks to all who were able to give. The Red Cross had difficulty contacting people in our community, and so outside giving was down. But the people of Grace made up for it!

Grace provided Christmas gifts for four families this past Christmas, including a used refrigerator in good shape, toys, food baskets, clothing, shoes, etc. In some of this we partnered with the Elks. We also gave away almost a dozen bikes. These were in the possession of the Crystal City Police Dept., who gave them to Grace to distribute to those in need.

Pastor's Column. With Valentine's Day coming up soon, everyone knows how cheap we Presbyterians are, although we prefer the word "frugal". We invented the Valentine's Day card that has the rotating "year" wheel attached behind the front cover. This let's a married couple give it to each other year after year. All one has to do is rotate the wheel, and the front, which says, "Happy___ Anniversary, Dear!" changes from 1st to 2nd to... 15th to 16th ... to 41st...to whatever.

What people don't know is what great poets we Presbyterians are. Bob and Norma Sims, Cape Cod natives and Presbyterians, I'm sure, sent out the following poem inside their annual Valentine cards.

*Cape Cod boys, they have no sleds.
They slide down dunes on codfish heads.
Cape Cod girls, they have no combs.
They comb their hair with codfish bones.
And when it comes to Valentine's Day
They celebrate in a Cape Cod way.
To non-Cape Codders it may seem odd
To receive an affectionate Valentine cod.*

-DJ

Question: What reason did Adam give his children as to why they no longer lived in Eden?
Answer: "Your mother ate us out of house and home."



"Toni and I met during this morning's 'Greet Your Neighbor' time. We'd like you to marry us."