



**Mission:** To create a loving, growing community that honors and worships God; strives for a broader understanding of the nature of God; proclaims the Good News of Jesus Christ; challenges its members to live in commitment to that Good News; reaches out to those in need; and promotes Christian unity.

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e-mail address: [bvillefcc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bvillefcc@sbcglobal.net)  
web site: [www.bvillefcc.org](http://www.bvillefcc.org)

## First Christian Church Newsletter

520 S. Osage, P. O. Box 1177, Bartlesville, Oklahoma 74005 (918)336-4520

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### **CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**

**Sunday, January 8, 2012**

**(Immediately after the worship service to vote on the following:**

- First Christian Church pursue the possibility of partnering with First Presbyterian Church of Bartlesville. While operational details are yet to be determined, it is anticipated that the two churches would share pastoral and other staff, have some but not all services together, work together on local mission efforts and Christian education, and maintain, yet share, their current facilities.
- The partnership's structure be modeled after The Pawhuska Ecumenical Parish. The PEP, formed in 2004 by the First Christian Church of Pawhuska and First Presbyterian Church of Pawhuska, has successfully 'merged' the two congregations while maintaining the individualism of each, thus strengthening and enhancing both.

### **January 15, 2012 - Fellowship Dinner**

(following the worship service)

The Evangelism/Membership/Education Committee  
will provide the

**Cornbread, Beans and Dessert for the fellowship dinner.**

## Robnotes



The New Year for me is always a time for new beginnings, fresh horizons and exciting opportunities. This time last year I was in Illinois finishing up my Interim experience with the congregation there. Little did I know that a year later I would be in Bartlesville, Oklahoma. What is ahead for us at First Christian Church? My mom loves to say, "Only the Good Lord knows what is ahead." Thank God we know the Good Lord and Thank God that God knows what is ahead for us. We are stepping out in faith as we decide our future. I encourage you to come and vote on Sunday, January 8<sup>th</sup> as we decide to dialog with partnering with First Presbyterian Church. Here is a poem I keep in my devotional Bible that reflects well as we as individuals and as a congregation go into the new year, which ever way we decide to proceed.

In Christ, Rob

### Recipe for a Happy New Year

Take 12 whole months, remove all bitterness, hatred and jealousy. Wash them in love, light, and life.

Then cut each into 28, 30, or 31 pieces, as desired. Set aside all but one portion. Prepare the daily portion, one day at a time, by adding the following ingredients: 1 part faith, 1 part patience, 1 part courage, and 1 part honest work. Mix well. Add to each day 1 part hope, faithfulness, generosity, and kindness.

Blend with 7 parts of prayer and 3 parts meditation. Add at least 1 good deed.

Season the whole with a dash of good spirits, a sprinkle of fun, a pinch of play and a cup of good humor. Carefully fold in friends and family until thoroughly combined.

Pour all ingredients into a vessel well oiled with harmony. Cook thoroughly over radiant accord until your heart tests warm and tender. Garnish with a smile and serve with quiet unselfishness and unending happiness. -Karen Ann Blan



**REMEMBER THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED**

December 26 & 27  
& January 2



Barbara Creel  
Elizabeth Cook  
Page Harshfield  
Q & Etta Montgomery  
Frances Gardner  
Charlotte Spencer  
Barbara Parsons  
Helen Stead  
Doris Hamilton  
Jennifer McKissick  
Chester Spencer  
Wilda Chew  
Ann McCleskey



Michele (Johnson) Uhlig  
Sue Sharp (Emily Hays)  
Leonard & Elaine LaRue  
(Roger & Suzanne Shiflet)  
Greg Mueggenborg (Margery Maple)  
Charlie Chaffin (Debbie Lansford)  
Gordon Grant  
Scott Fooshee (Harriett Lansford)  
Allyson Perry (Debbie Lansford)  
Howard Jones (Margery Maple)  
Jerry Smith (Chester & Charlotte Spencer)  
Stephanie Austin (Barbara Anderson)  
Toly Artunoff (Margery Maple)  
Bobby Hindman (Steve Seger)  
Jarand Kennedy (Claire Meredith)

Jim Cyrus (Faye Marlowe)  
Carilu Robinson (Faye Marlowe)  
Isaac Watkins (Mary Lou Bray)  
Dean Marlowe (Faye Marlowe)  
Tim Ingram (Lee & Gay Cooper)  
Mike Margul (Lee & Gay Cooper)  
Kyle Lansford (Harriett & Debbie)  
Armed Forces  
Those Incarcerated in prison  
Connor Sample (LaVerne Hodgkinson)  
Molly Bechtelheimer (Emily Hays)  
Marje Zumalt (Billie Walker)  
Shirley Davidson (David Davidson)  
Lizzie Lawson (Martha Ferguson)  
Anne Lott (Faye Marlowe)



The CWF Day Group will be meeting on Thursday, January 5 in the Fellowship Hall at 10:00 a.m. Sharon Armstrong will be giving the devotion and program. Hostesses will be Ruth Ann Matthiesen and Billie Walker. The CWF Night Group and any other church members who would like to volunteer will be meeting at 5:15pm at 1st Presbyterian Church to help serve the meal at Bridges Out of Poverty.

### FLOWERS FOR THE ALTAR

Thanks to Mary Lou Bray and Claire Meredith, we now have several lovely arrangements of artificial flowers. If you wish to give flowers in memory or in honor of someone, please sign-up on the sheets available during the coffee hour or call the church office and request a certain Sunday. A small donation to the flower fund would be appreciated if using the artificial flowers. If you prefer to give live flowers, please make arrangements with the florist of your choice and let the church office know of your decision so that it can appear in the church bulletin and we can make sure that Sunday is available.

**SPECIAL NOTE:** If you are going to make a donation to the church by giving stock through your bank or brokerage, please let the church office know so we can give you credit for your contribution. The firms will no longer tell us who gave the stock due to the privacy act.

### A CHRISTMAS DAY GATHERING

Barbara and Pastor Rob invites you at 10:00 a.m. for a light Christmas brunch before and during our caroling and meditation in the Fellowship Hall at 10:30 a.m. We will process to the sanctuary where Christmas Day worship will conclude.

### Save yourself taxes

and help CONERN at the same time. If you are over 70 ½ and you donate some or all of your IRA Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) directly to a charity in 2011 the donation can be a Qualified Charitable Distribution and you will not be taxed on the RMD. What a win win solution! You need to do it prior to December 31, 2011. For more information call your tax advisor or Faye Marlowe at 918-336-2600.



Our sympathy to the family and friends of the following recent death:

**Wilma Nash** passed away on November 28. Graveside service was held at Memorial Park on December 2nd.

### Item for CONERN for the Month of January "Toilet Paper"

Please place in the basket near the alley door. We will deliver items to the CONERN Center.



First Christian Church,  
Thank you all so much for the candy bags you all provided us for the kids for Christmas. You all are truly a blessing to us. May God bless you all.

Social Service Ministries

Dear First Christian,  
Thank you for your care and remembering my mom in such a kind way. I cherish the memories we have of First Christian Church.

Sherry (Wilma Nash's daughter)

## Till Christmas Comes Again

(Minnie Klemme)

*Bless the golden hour spent beneath this tree;  
Bless the joy and laughter; bless the memory  
Of the happy birthday of our Lord, so dear;  
Of the gifts and giving at this time of year;  
Of the ones who gathered coming far and wide;  
Of the warmth and friendship at the Chrstmastide.  
Bless the little angel on the topmost limb;  
Bless the shining candles that we light for Him;  
All the bits of tinsel, saved and put away;  
All the hopes and longing for another day,  
For a year still hidden to our hearts and eyes,  
Somehow full of promise with its Christmas ties.*

**Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year**

**The Church Staff,**

**Pastor Rob, Margery, Lou, Retta, Chester, Billy**

## OUTREACH UPDATE:

First Christian is making a difference in the lives of people in our community! Our recent **Mountain of Food drive resulted in \$1600.** worth of food being purchased and delivered to Concern. Filling the pantry at Concern is critical to sustaining one of Concern's missions which is to provide food for those in need in Bartlesville. Thanks to all of you who participated and to the Trustees and David Davidson for picking up and delivering the food.

**Goody Bags!** Another Success! We filled between 400-420 bags with candy at the Finger Food Fiesta. The bags were delivered to the Salvation Army on December 5. Thanks to all who brought candy and helped with filling. We couldn't do it without you! Outreach Committee

## WINTER IS HERE....

### How to check if CHURCH is CANCELLED due to INCLEMENT WEATHER...

Please check the Bartlesville AM radio station (1400) for updates. Steve and Pastor Rob will decide by 7:30 a.m. if Church services are cancelled and will call the radio station. However, a good rule of thumb to our members is this... Please remember ICE AND SNOW means DON'T GO....

### OFFICE HOURS:

Office Manager office hours

Monday through Thursday-8:30am - 4:30pm  
(closed for lunch 12 noon - 1:20pm)

Pastor Rob Scofield's office hours

**Drop in Hours:** Tues., Wed., Thurs.

9am - noon.

**Appointments:** Tues., Wed., & Thurs. afternoon and Friday morning and afternoon.

**In addition:** Pastor Rob can be contacted at

918-397-4471 (cell)

### experience the sacred

Through song and silence in the

### *Spirit of Taize*

5:30 pm

(first Thursday of each month) (Nov. 3)

Our Saviour Lutheran Church

300 NE Madison

### Sunday Worship Schedule:

**Sunday School: 9:15 a.m**

**Worship: 10:30 a.m.**

### Staff:

**Intentional Interim Pastor: Rob Scofield**

**Music Director:**

**Margery S. Maple**

**Office Manager:**

**Lou Brown**

**Custodian:**

**Billy Rogers**

**Nursery Attendant:**

**Retta Seger**



The deadline for articles for the next newsletter will be Monday, January 23rd by 9:00 a.m.

