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## Holy Covenant UMC Newsletter

**Seek** with God's heart    **Grow** in God's word    **Serve** all God's people

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Issue: #26

December 31, 2010

From Pastor Andy



### Worship + 2 = A Great Resolution for 2011

It is January of a new year! This is of course the season for assessing our current habits, routines and priorities and trying to muster up the gumption to align them more clearly to what is most important to us and who we most want to be. I suspect that for many of us, having a more vibrant spiritual life - one that can inspire us, ground us, guide us, and sustain us through whatever 2011 might bring - is high on the "New Year Resolutions" list. But how exactly do we go about getting a more vibrant spiritual life?

Worship + 2 = a more vibrant spiritual life.

If we look carefully at Jesus' own lifestyle - the Way that he modeled for his disciples to follow - three key elements emerge.

1) Jesus worshipped. He met regularly with other people in his religious community in order to worship God. In the synagogues of his time, they sang and prayed and were taught the meaning of the scriptures. In the temple, they participated in holy rituals that helped them recall the character of their God and all that God had done for their salvation. Weekly worship was a sustaining rhythm of life, as reliable as the sun rising each morning.

2) Jesus was a part of a small, "cell" group. He and the twelve disciples journeyed through life together. They spent time together, ate together, struggled with the deep questions of life together, prayed together, and grew in faith together. If the whole Church is a body, then such small groups are cells - the fundamental building blocks for the whole. Without the supportive, authentic relationships developed in a small, cell group, we set ourselves up to wander through the Christian life on our own.

3) Jesus was called to serve. No doubt, Jesus as the Son of God

### Children's Ministry

#### Get Moving

There is growing concern about childhood obesity in our country. Would you like to participate in a program that could be life-changing for families? Get Moving will provide health and nutrition information necessary to maintain a healthy lifestyle.

This is for kids and parents to participate in together. We hope to begin this program in our community in the spring.

Over the next few months, we are looking for individuals interested in

planning activities, mentoring kids and their parents, promoting this effort within our community, and coordinating short health/nutrition seminars presented by local professionals. If you are interested, please contact Jana Jones [jjones@hcumc.org](mailto:jjones@hcumc.org) or Kathy Garcia [kgavinagarcia@yahoo.com](mailto:kgavinagarcia@yahoo.com) for more information.

### Kids' Sunday School



Classes for Toddlers through 5th Grade at 9:45 am!  
 Sunday School will BEE fun with Buzz!  
 Learn to know Jesus, feel his love, and have a friendship with him!

### Youth Ministry

**Youth! Mark your calendars with these dates for 2011:**

Feb 11-13 - Winter Retreat  
 Mar 4-6 - Youth Annual Conference - for youth leaders at Bridgeport  
 Jun 14-21 - Choir Tour  
 Jul 3-8 - Junior High mission trip  
 Jul 24-30 - Senior High mission trip  
 Aug 7-13 - Youth week

### Adult Ministry

**"A New Kind Of Christianity"**  
**Young Adult Class led by Pastor Andy,**  
 Sundays (January 9-February 6), 9:45 am  
 A provocative & enticing introduction to the Christian

had a unique set of gifts and a once-and-for-all call to pave the way for the salvation of all creation. But each of his followers have been given their own gifts for a ministry of some kind and have a call to serve. A more vibrant spiritual life is not a self-absorbed life; instead, it leads us to grow in compassion for others and then to act on that loving concern by serving others.

Worship + 2 = Worship + Cell + Call

Worship + 2 = the Way Jesus lived

Worship + 2 = rich and abundant life for Jesus' disciples

As you assess your current habits, routines and priorities and consider resolutions for 2011, I want to challenge you to give attention to the health of your spiritual life. Is weekly worship a life-sustaining rhythm in your life? Are you being blessed by supportive, authentic relationships in a cell group? Have you said, "Yes," to God's call to serve with the gifts you have been given? What would it look like to make one or more of these key elements a part of your life in 2011?

Worship + 2 = your lifestyle in 2011?

Grace and Peace, Pastor Andy

**Welcome New Members**

faith of tomorrow.

### "Share The Love" Class-

led by Pastor Wendy,  
Sundays (January 23-  
February 27), 9:45 am

Learn how to more  
comfortably talk about your  
faith.

### Music Ministry

#### Music Ministry News

Come be a part of our  
wonderful music ministry.  
Contact Pastor Debbie for  
information,

[dchapman@hcumc.org](mailto:dchapman@hcumc.org)

#### Adult Choir Open House!

Wednesday, January 9,  
7:30 pm in the Choir Room  
Come check it out!

#### Children's rehearsals

resume January 5, 5:30 pm  
- Children's Handbells  
(Sanctuary) Grades 3 - 5  
(grade 2 by audition)  
6:10 pm - Snack Supper  
(Room 113)  
6:30 pm - Children's Choir  
(Room A) Grades 1-6

#### Youth rehearsals resume

January 9 (grades 6-12)  
Bells - 4:00 pm  
Choir - 5:00 pm (following  
meeting)  
Invite a friend and receive  
a prize - youth will rehearse  
following the meeting.

#### Youth Choir Parent

**Meeting**, January 9, 2011  
5:00 pm in the Sanctuary  
Come learn the latest  
details about our summer  
tour to Boston

### ECDP

**Kindergarten Parent  
Orientation**-January 11 at  
7:00 pm

**Outer Space Open  
House**-January 24-27 from



**Becka Rose Frost, pictured with Robby Ischy  
joined December 19, 2010**

9:15-10:45 am  
Families are invited to visit our school and tours will be conducted. Learning centers will be set up to learn about Outer Space.

**Green Team**

**Pond Cleaning**

January 15 & February 19  
at 9:00 am  
Help our Green Team beautify our adopted pond across the street!

**Sunday Worship Schedule**

**8:30 and 11:00 am**  
Worship Services  
**9:45 am**  
Sunday School for all ages

**Happy New Year from the Staff!**



**Rev. Andy Lewis, Senior Pastor**



**Jason Billingslea  
joined December 19, 2010**

**Looking for 2010 Photos**

**Do you have photos from a Holy Covenant event?**

HCUMC has many fun activities and events for all. With each one we see people taking pictures of your friends and family. Do you have pictures stored on your camera, in your computer or on your facebook page you can share with us to include on the church website in our Photo Gallery?

Help us tell the story of HCUMC with fun, inviting pictures of all the special activities and ministries we are involved in.



Please send pictures to HCUMC Outreach/Communications  
[hcumc.comm@gmail.com](mailto:hcumc.comm@gmail.com)  
Please include the name of the event.



**Rev. Debbie Chapman,**  
Associate Pastor, Music  
Ministries



**Rev. Wendy Curran,**  
Associate Pastor, Spiritual  
Formation



**Jana Jones,** Children's  
Minister

### Prayer Corner



### December Quiz "It Pays to Pray"

1. How many words are in the Lord's Prayer?  
a. 53  
b. 68  
c. 76
2. Unscramble the following words: ksa  
ekse ckkon idfn rodo veing

3. Put the following sentence in correct order:

joyful  
pray  
be  
continually  
always.

4. Fill in the blank. Who is \_\_\_in yonder\_\_\_at whose feet the \_\_\_fall?

5. True or false. Lo, at two o'clock a.m. who is he prays in dark Gethsemane?

Prayer quiz entry eligibility rules:

All entries must be sent in no later than the end of current month. Answers may be sent by email. On the subject line, please put quiz entry answers.

Nancy: [rlrudolf@aol.com](mailto:rlrudolf@aol.com)

Roderick: [rodericktay@msn.com](mailto:rodericktay@msn.com)

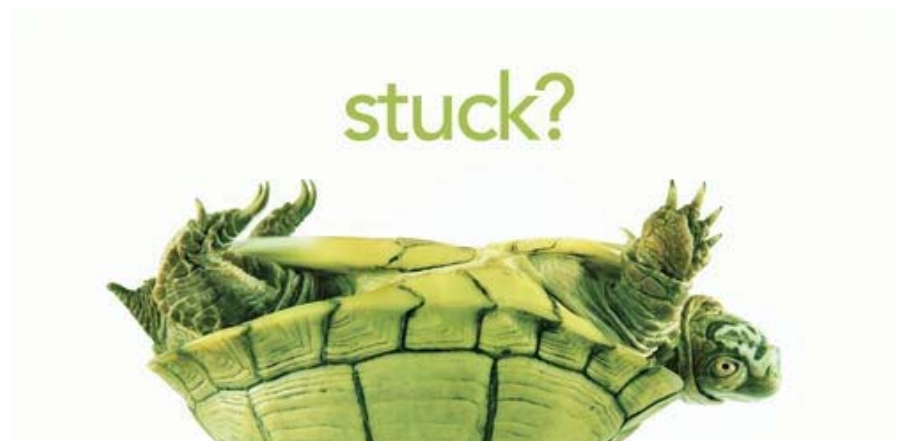
One correct entry [all 5 questions answered] will be selected randomly. The winner will receive a small gift, and the winner will be announced in the Prayer Corner.

For those without computer access, print answers neatly and the entry answer can be hand delivered or mailed to Nancy Rudolf. Verbal replies are not eligible.

Members of the prayer committee are not eligible.

### Stuck?

### Sermon Series Jan 9 - Feb 6





**Georgia Harrison, Youth Minister**



**Sheryl Toney, ECDP Director**



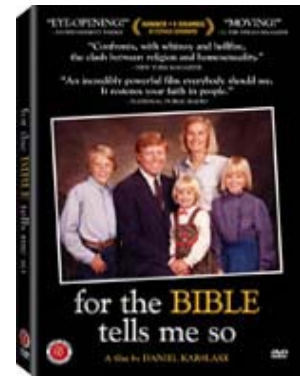
**Carol Jones, Bookkeeper**

- Jan 9: Weighed Down By Your Past?**
- Jan 16: Just Going Through the Motions?**
- Jan 23: Overwhelmed by All the "Have-Tos"?**
- Jan 30: Trapped in What Seems Like a Dead End Situation?**
- Feb 6: Tried to Get Unstuck Before But It Didn't Take?**

**"For the Bible Tells Me So"**

**Movie & Discussion**

January 16 & 23 at 6:30 pm  
Through the experiences of five very normal, very Christian, very American families, we discover how insightful people of faith handle the realization that one of their children is gay. A follow-up discussion on the issue of homosexuality will be led by Rev. Dr. John Holbert on February 20.



Sponsored by Advocates for Justice & Peace.

**Chili Cook-off**



**Saturday, January 22  
6 pm in the Covenant Center**

Join us for this fun evening of chili and music and enter your own chili in the competition!

Sponsored by the Spiritual Journeymen.

**Confirmation 2011 January Service Project**

We are collecting items for Ronald McDonald House in Dallas. Ronald McDonald House is a temporary home-away-from-home that serves and sustains families of seriously ill or injured children receiving treatment in a Dallas hospital.

**Please bring your donations to the church by Sunday, January 30. In consideration of the needs of the families, all items should be new and unopened. You may bring your donations to the Confirmation room - 207 upstairs (red room).** Thank you for your help!



**WISH LIST**

- PAPER PRODUCTS: paper towels, toilet paper
- OFFICE SUPPLIES: copier/laser printer paper, postage stamps, AAA batteries
- HOUSEHOLD SUPPLIES: ziploc bags (gallon & quart size)
- PANTRY SUPPLIES: individually packaged snacks, breakfast foods,



**Elise Odell**, Administrative Assistant

### *In Our Thoughts and Prayers*

The Stem family; the Curran family; the Patterson family; the Depew family; Stephen Ministry leaders; Nicole Abed; Rosemary Stierhoff; Cris Hinkley and Dot Molencupp; Jaynie Ayoub; Gregg Stone; Jenny Martin; Sue Moser; Joni Taylor; Dick Ellis; Paula & Bev Randall; Quentin & Melanie Martin; Shirley Gonzales; Lloyd Barnes; Josephine Anderson; Vic Anderson; Bill Blassingame; Jeanna Blassingame; Jim McKee's sister, Cyndi Benedict; Scott Curry's mother, Jeanne; Mark Suter; Claudia Buntyn; Brenda & Rick Richardson; Marcus Oakley; Sheila Anderson; Joni Taylor's brother Mike; Bill Anderson; Dan Patman's niece, Lizz; DoReen Burbidge; Azlynn and John Hooper; Kevin Stahl's father, Harvey; Larie Engles' mother; David & Coby Mazzucco; Steven Askew; Jak Kinder; Philip Sorrell; Susan and Jay Graham; Nicki & Don Luce & family; Heather Hinton's uncle Billy Fulton; Mike Arthur; Amy & Eric Bresie; Sandy Serifin; Carol Jones' parents, Verne & Dorlis Glass; Sandie & Mark

non-perishable fruit

PERSONAL ITEMS: deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes  
SPECIAL ITEMS: tickets to sporting/special events, current DVDs (new) - rated G/PG, games (new) for Xbox/Xbox 360/Nintendo Wii, Target/WalMart giftcards, AMC movie passes, giftcards to gas stations, gifts for teens (sweatshirts, iPods, lotions), outdoor equipment (basketballs, volleyballs, soccer balls, etc.)

### Men's Group Workday Success



On Saturday, November 13 ten members of the Spiritual Journeymen men's group made a difference in the lives of senior citizens in our neighborhood. They partnered with Carrollton's Senior Adult Services to help two senior

residents in Farmers Branch resolve city citations that these residents had received. The seniors' back yards were laden with trash, debris and overgrown grass. The Journeymen cleared away all the debris including the demolishing one garden shed and relocating it for city trash pickup. Additionally the adjacent alley for each home was cleared of brush and trees and the yards were freshly mowed. It was a true backyard home makeover!

After the workday was complete, the Journeymen treated themselves to a hearty BBQ lunch at Marshall's to celebrate. Making a huge difference in the lives our neighbors were: Bruce Allen, Cory Bowes, John Engles, Bruce Gibson, Jim McKee, Bob Michael, Lee Shore, Kevin Stahl, Johnny Swaim and Rick Davis. Thank them for their service when you next see them! Or better yet, join them for the next workday!

### ECDP Christmas Program 2010

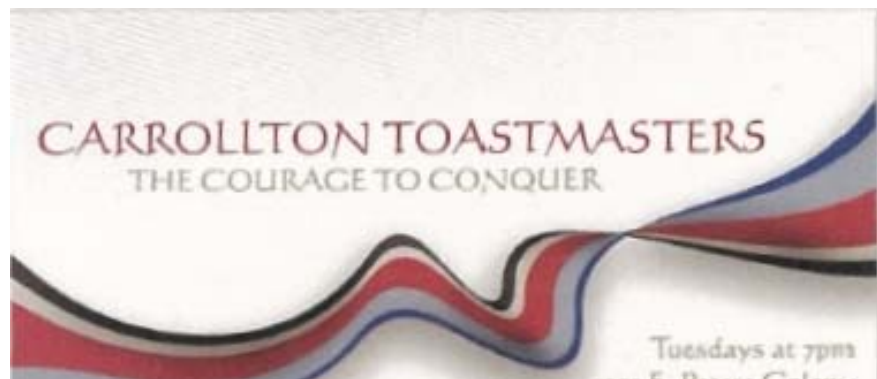


Loudermilk; Doug Jones' brother Jeff; Ray Rivera; Chris Eldridge; the family of Kenny Adams; the family of Geri Venincasa; Joy & Scott Leiding & family; Dale Bryan & family; Noel Tardy; Carol Blalock; Jeannie Deringer; Arthur Alaniz and family; Bill Hill; Jay & Kathy Cash; Rosie Alexander; Kate Bushmann; Jess Beltran; Jan Rollins; Annabella Chan; Rick Clement; Lisa Tenore; Jon Broom; Barbara Boothe; David Fettke; Rick Kaiser & family; the Hickman family; the Dooley family; Jackie Franklin and family; Anna Hixon, friend of Kim Eaves; Ann Michelle King; Jon Broom; Huffman family; the Pifer family; the Bailey family; and the Witcher family.



**Our loved ones in the military**

Trevor Baucom, Precious Blackman, Jeff Christie, Clem Clemens, Sean Connelly, Tim Connelly, CJ Davidson, Collin Fender, Zach Glass, David Hunt, Oscar Jasso, Marco Mastrogiovanni, Kevin Merritt, Brand Oakley, Jake Oliver, Ashton Rudolf, Ashley Wert, C.J. Westmoreland, Brad Wethington, & Jeremy Whiteside.







**Custom Embroidery**

Corporate Apparel, Shirts, Caps, etc.

**Screen Printing**

T-shirts, Team, etc.

**Advertising Promotional Items**

Pens, Mugs, Magnets, Koozies, etc.

*Mike & Rose Lovell*

1630 Valwood Parkway at Luna Rd., Carrollton, TX

e-mail: [metrocrest@embroidme.com](mailto:metrocrest@embroidme.com) web: [www.embroidme-metrocrest.com](http://www.embroidme-metrocrest.com)

Katie Neff, MS, LPC-Intern with *Pastoral Counseling and Education Center* is currently offering counseling at Holy Covenant Thursday afternoons and evenings. Call (214) 526-4525 to make an appointment.

[www.pcec-counseling.org](http://www.pcec-counseling.org)



Piano Lessons at Holy Covenant!



Jonathan Kaan is teaching piano lessons at Holy Covenant. You can contact Jonathan at [jkaan@dcccd.edu](mailto:jkaan@dcccd.edu) or at 972-505-1833 for more information. Jonathan graduated with honors from Baylor University with a Masters Degree in Piano Pedagogy and Performance.

Our Vision -  
 Connecting with our neighbors,  
 caring for our earth,  
 finding transformation through the love of Christ.

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