



# The Grapevine



## Prosser United Methodist Church – December 2010

824 Sixth Street, Prosser, WA 99350 – 509-786-1097 – [www.prosserumc.org](http://www.prosserumc.org)  
Office Hours: M – Th. 9 AM to Noon E-mail: [prosserumc@bentonrea.com](mailto:prosserumc@bentonrea.com)

## December Homilies and Scripture

**December 5** – Second Sunday of Advent  
Deaconess Children's Offering  
Hebrew Scripture—Isaiah 11:1-10  
Homily—"The Root of Jesse"

**December 12** – Third Sunday of Advent  
Hebrew Scripture—Isaiah 35:1-10  
Homily—"Fulfilling a Promise"

**December 19** – Fourth Sunday in Advent  
Hebrew Scripture—Isaiah 7:10-16  
Homily—"Immanuel"

**December 26** – Gospel—Matthew 2:13-23  
Homily—"Flight"

**Nursery Care Available:** Nursery care is available during our worship services provided by Tanya and Katie Cone. Children up through 1<sup>st</sup> Grade October can be dropped off at the nursery, down the first floor hall of the education wing of the church.

## Communion Sunday December 5<sup>th</sup>

The sacrament of Holy Communion will be celebrated on Sunday, December 5<sup>th</sup>, during the 11 AM worship service. All are invited to come to the table to share in the meal that reminds us of the advent of God in Jesus.

## DECEMBER EVENTS

- December 1 – United Methodist Women, Noon
- December 4 – Men's Group, 8 AM
- December 4 – "Hanging of the Greens" 4PM
- December 5 – Deaconess Children's Services offering
- December 5 – Advent Potluck Dinner, After Church
- December 8 – Administrative Council, 7 PM
- December 12 – "Share Your Talents" After Church
- December 19 – Caroling after church
- December 20 – Jubilee Food bagging, 9:30 AM
- December 21 – Winter Begins
- December 24 – Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, 6PM
- December 25 – Merry Christmas!
- December 31 – New Years' Eve

## Special Offerings

This month we will have a special offering on December 5<sup>th</sup> for Deaconess Children's Services. Deaconess provides assistance to children and their families in need in the Seattle area. Deaconess has been doing this work for over 90 years! Our Christmas Eve offering will all go to mission work. Traditionally half has gone to a local mission and half to global mission work. The Ad Council will designate these projects at their December meeting. Please give generously to these offerings.

## Jubilee Food Basket

For the month of December please bring cans of cranberries to church to donate to our Jubilee food basket. The basket is located at the back of the sanctuary. All donations go to help feed the people in need in our community. Thanks!



## Bo's Blog

Last month I wrote about how Thanksgiving helps us to recognize our blessings and to give thanks for them. December, and the seasons of Advent and Christmas, move us on to the next step by reminding us to share the blessings we have with others.

In Advent we prepare and wait. Prepare for what? Wait for

what? For God's gift on Christmas Day. For the gift of Emmanuel (meaning "God with us"). For the gift of Jesus (meaning "he will save his people"). We received, so many years ago, and still have today, God's presence among us. God was, and still is, with us, around us. We received God's salvation in that gift of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection, a gift we continue to share with the world. We received these wonderful gifts, and are called to follow Jesus' example and give to others.

And we do give. We give gifts to family and friends. Its fun (and harrowing at times) to go shopping for gifts in the weeks before Christmas. The best gifts, that I've received or given, are often those that reflect something of the relationship between me and the other person, something of our past history, or present interest. I think many people do try to give gifts that have meaning, rather than those that are just expensive or fancy. We want to give something that expresses the love or friendship we feel for them.

We are also called to give to those we don't know. God's gift of grace is for the whole world. Jesus' sacrifice was for all people. Many of us give donations to charities throughout the year. We also give through our church, through the apportionments we pay to our conference and through the support we give to groups like Jubilee Ministries. Jubilee, for example, through its food bank, provides families in need with food, and with a limited amount of rent or utilities assistance. Through the Red Door thrift store, they provide families with clothing and things for the home at low prices. And through the vouchers they provide, with the help of our police department, they give assistance to people travelling through our area for gas, food, or an overnight stay. By our contributions, we give gifts to many people we will never know. But they will know that we care, as God does, for all people.

This month we celebrate being blessed by God's gift of love. The way we celebrate this gift is by giving gifts of love to others. And isn't there a song about that—a song that started with the angels singing "Gloria in excelsis Deo?" And it is echoed today with the words "Love is something, if you give it away, you end up having more."

Shalom,  
Bo

## Men's Group

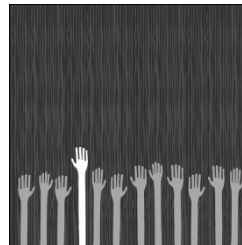
The Men's Group will meet on Saturday December 4<sup>th</sup>, at 8 AM in the Friendship Room at the church. We will have coffee, cocoa, and orange juice to drink, and doughnuts to munch on. Following a time of fellowship and planning, we will do some work around the church. All men of any age are welcome to attend, so come join us for the morning!

## Food Bagging on December 20<sup>th</sup>

Monday December 20<sup>th</sup> is our turn to break down large 50 lb. bags of beans, rice, or oats at the Jubilee Food Bank. We put them into smaller bags that are handed out to families in need during the week. Please come to the Food Bank at 1429 Stacey in Prosser at 9:30 AM that morning for a bit of work and some good fellowship too!

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Don't forget to stop by the nametag table at church and sign up for one of our volunteer opportunities on Sunday mornings. We need liturgists, greeters, and coffee hour hosts, as well as folks to step out of the service a couple of times on a Sunday (you'll have the pastor's blessing even!) to check on how our nursery attendants are doing. Sign up this week!

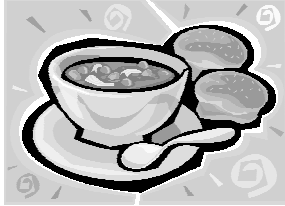


## Scout News

Our Tiger Cub Scout troop is joining with the Prosser Eagles in collecting gently used mittens coats, boots, and toys for those in need in our community. Please bring your donations to one of the collection sites listed in the Prosser Record-Bulletin, or to the church, by December 11 so that they can get them wrapped and distributed. If you have some things you'd like to donate, but can't get them to a collection site, please call Rayna Phipps at 973-4190. Thanks!

# CHURCH POTLUCK DECEMBER 5<sup>TH</sup>

Join the fellowship with your friends and church family in the Fellowship Hall following the service this Sunday. Bring a dish, if you wish



## YOUTH SOUP & SALAD

The youth will be hosting Youth Soup & Salad following the service on December 19<sup>th</sup>. Support the youth and enjoy some warm company and soup



## Christmas Eve Service

PUMC will have a service of lessons and carols on Christmas Eve beginning at 6 PM on Friday, December 24<sup>th</sup>. We will be hearing readings from the prophets and the gospel of Luke, lighting the advent wreath candles, and singing our favorite carols. Please bring your family and join us in this centuries old tradition of celebrating the birth of Jesus.

## BOOK TABLE

Although the book table in the narthex is supplied and maintained by the UMW, the books are available to everyone. Just sign your name on the card found inside the front cover and put it in the box provided.

Several books address current hot topic subjects. If you would like more insight into illegal immigration, try Enrique's Journey or They Take Our Jobs. Books related to the Muslim/Islam issue include Three Cups of Tea and Acts of Faith. In light of recent food recalls, try Fast Food Nation. Or, browse the table and choose something that fits your interests. See Marilyn Knight, Pam Serrano, or Carolyn Hart about other books.

## Ad Council December 8<sup>th</sup>

Due to our regular November and December meeting dates falling so close to holidays, the Administrative Council will have one meeting for November and December on Wednesday, December 8<sup>th</sup>, at 7 PM in the Friendship Room. All are invited to attend, whether a member of the council or not, and members of the council are encouraged to mark this date on their calendars for our year-end meeting.

## PUMC Finances

October Budget -- \$9,224  
October Income -- \$9,535  
Difference for the Month -- \$311

Year-to-Date Budget -- \$97,504  
Year-to-Date Income -- \$93,285  
Difference Year-to-Date -- \$(4,219)





## CHRISTMAS 2010 PUMC Advent Events

December 4, Saturday

4:00 p.m. "Hanging of the Greens"  
Decorate Narthex and Fellowship Hall  
Decorate tables for Christmas dinner  
Pizza (order) charge \$5.00/family  
Games and singing around the piano  
What to bring: decorations and games

December 5, Sunday

After church "Christmas Dinner"  
Bring a potluck dish perhaps a Christmas favorite.  
Enjoy the fellowship, good food and table decorations.

December 12, Sunday

"Share Your Talents"  
During the worship service, Sing, play an instrument, a  
drama or a poetry reading. Talk with Pastor Bo if you  
would like to participate.

December 19, Sunday

"Caroling "  
After church and coffee hour, gather at the church  
afterward for hot chocolate and Christmas goodies.

## UMW NEWS

The Prosser United Methodist Women invite all the ladies of the church to the next UMW meeting on Wednesday, December 1, 2010. We will start off at 12:00 noon with lunch. The main dish will be provided by our hostess, Peggy Edom and the rest of the meal is potluck. The Advent program will be presented by Diana Herold. Any questions, please contact Linda Key-509-882-3110.

## Youth Donations

Our youth group is raising funds for a Christmas family and for a mission trip to New Orleans next summer. It's an exciting time for them as they work to reach their goals, and it's an exciting opportunity to be able to support them with our donations. This is just a reminder to please be specific in making your donations by writing "Youth Mission Trip," or "Youth Christmas Family" on your check or envelope so that we know what your intention is for your donation. Donations simply labeled "Youth" will continue to be split 50/50 between camperships and the mission trip. Thank you!

## ~ New Address ~

Clarence and Roberta Rincker  
125 Wamba Road, Apt 216  
Prosser, WA. 99350

