

# EXPRESSIONS

**CHURCH IN THE HILLS (USA)**

A Prayer of  
*Thanksgiving*



**NOVEMBER 2010**

“Why Do You Keep Calling Us Sheep?”

Happy November! I want to offer a special greeting to all of our snowbird friends who have made their way south to warmer locales. And to those of us who are here enjoying the ever-changing weather of Northern Michigan, I say enjoy this wonderful time of year.

While some may know about our deacon flocks, others have been asking, “What is this whole flock thing about?” The deacons began an initiative last year to try and tie the congregation closer and provide ready support for individual members of our church family. It is important to provide options for all of us to feel nurtured by our church as we join together to follow God’s calling. Each deacon is assigned to a portion of our church family. This deacon is a contact person for your joys and concerns, prayer requests, or if you have questions about the life and activities of our church family.

The deacon contact does not take my place or the place of the church office in assisting you or answering church concerns. The deacons are additional support persons, focused on particular members within our congregation. This past summer, each deacon hosted a gathering with his or her flock in order to introduce themselves and provide support. We are always adding new names to our deacon flocks and if you would like to be included, please contact me as soon as possible.

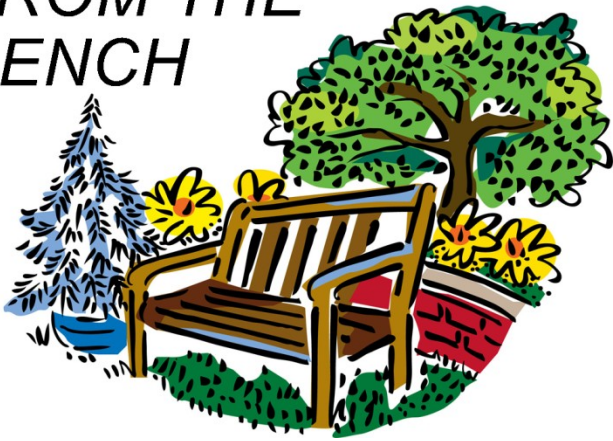
The deacons’ goal is to nurture our family in love and faith. They are guided by scripture to make every effort to keep the unity of the Holy Spirit through the bond of peace. I am delighted we have such compassionate church officers who seek to serve others through the grace of Jesus Christ so willingly.

If you have any questions or concerns about the deacon flocks, please contact me at the church office. I hope you continue to enjoy having this new connectional opportunity within our church family.

Peace and grace to you,

Pastor Andrew Pomerville

# FROM THE BENCH



I'm not an athlete but I understand that in sports circles one occasionally is advised to "mix it up" - in order to keep the opposition guessing and optimize the chances of winning for the team doing the mixing. CITH isn't a sports team by any stretch of the imagination, but those of us in charge of Sunday morning services also occasionally like to "mix it up." Please know that any changes to the order of service are made with great consideration given to (in no particular order) the Church season, immediate congregational needs, and opportunities for enhanced worship. One of the changes you'll see in November is the use of a different text and music for both the Kyrie and the Gloria. This new music comes to us from the Taize community and we have used their pieces before (i.e. "Jesus, Remember Me"). They're short, meant to be used in response to a reading (or other worship experience) and the ones we've chosen work particularly well during Advent. We're introducing them in November to maximize familiarity. The words and music will be found with your bulletin (in an attempt to keep you from being "mixed up" about what to sing).

If you can return the response sheets to a box in the back of the church at the end of worship that will enable us to re-use them the next Sunday.

I was bemused upon learning from a person from another denomination that his church is now using more responses during worship, in order to increase congregational participation. This has been a growing trend in Christian churches for some time - Latin is used less and less, hymns are not only incorporated into worship but are printed in languages other than English (even in a primarily English book), lay people are taking a more active part, and with the use of responsorial singing, everyone is brought into the "mix" as we all lift our voices in worship. We "mix it up" occasionally so that we do not become complacent about our responses to the readings, to the prayers, but continue to actively think about the words being spoken or read to us.

At choir practice we frequently use the Choristers' Prayer as a conclusion. Part of that prayer says, "...and what we sing with our lips may we believe in our hearts, and what we believe in our hearts may we show forth in our lives." In a broader sense, isn't that what worship as a whole is all about? We hope that the new responses we're introducing in November, as well as everything else that happens at CITH, will speak to your heart and mind, enabling you to "go forth" with a renewed sense of purpose.

Music Directory  
Dorothy Clore

## NOVEMBER GREETERS

November 7—Dave and Dave Gregory

November 14—Ron and Essie Blackburn

November 21—Don and Kathy Hoyt

November 28—Bruce and Bev Dickinson

Greeters should be at the church at 10:00 a.m. If you cannot be at the Service of Worship on the Sunday you are to be the greeter, please call Cindy Overby at (533-6001)

## NOVEMBER LITURGIST

November 7—Marty Harris

November 14—Kaela McManus

November 21—Dr. Misty Aylworth

November 28—Jim Racey

If you cannot be at the service of Worship On the Sunday you are to be the liturgist, please call Sue Schorfhaar (533-5071)

## NOVEMBER HEAD USHERS

November 7—Dave Gregory

November 14—Sharon Frey and David  
McBeth

November 21—Jeff Braden, Deb Braden and  
Greg Stover

November 28—Bob Drudge

## ATTENDANCE

October 3—113

October 12—125

October 17—121

October 24—115

## Deacons

### Class of 2010

Doris Ferris 377-7022

John Brostrom 631-3770

### Class of 2011

Carol Gregory 533-8138

Edena Williams 533-8598

Don Hoyt 989-614-0198

### Class of 2012

Martha Harris 533-6105

Lewis Lesperance 322-2893

Millie Sirrine 544-8047



*Happy Birthday!*

**Diana Milock 11-6**

**Gus Prince 11-12**

**Rick Munger 11-14**

**Jim Racey 11-14**

**Dorothy Clore 11-20**

**Tamara Byerly 11-20**

**Dorothy Despelder 11-26**

**Jeanne Clore 11-29**

*Celebrating an  
Anniversary*



**Steven and Donna Grill**                      **11-19**  
**Dennis and Jari Poll**                        **11-25**



## Sunday School Planning

### How to Have a Terrific Sunday School

First let me say that we are off to a great year of Sunday school here at Church in the Hills. Our congregation has primarily been older and now we are seeing more young families join us. How great is that? We see babies, preschoolers and school age children every week. It means that our Christian Education program is growing.

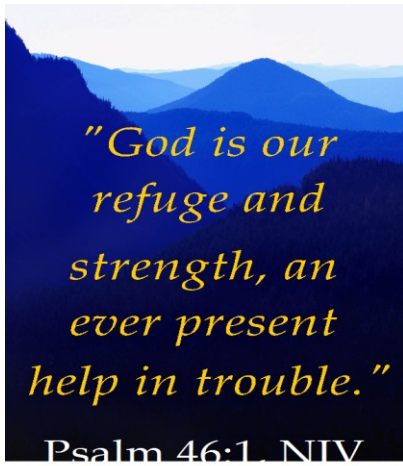
We can make sure that we make a difference in our children's lives and they can make a difference in ours. We have a friendly, warm –hearted congregation. Share that with our young families and their children. Help out with Sunday School or the Nursery program. If you have ideas, memories, talents that you would like to share with our children talk to Dee Lynch, Cynthia Tschudy or Rachell Pomerville. If you remember prayers, songs and stories that meant a lot to you please share them.

Terri Blanch is already planning for next summer's Vacation Bible Art Camp. The dates are from June 27 thru July 1. The theme will be "Praying in Color". Here is another opportunity to get involved. We would love your input as we plan for this. Do you have ideas for snacks. Games, songs and stories? Let us know.

Remember that you can be a blessing to a child and in turn that child can also be a blessing to you.

Cynthia Tschudy  
Elder for Christian Education.

**Deacons on call for November**  
**John Brostrom, Edena Williams and**  
**Doris Ferris**



## **WORSHIP IN SORROW AND TROUBLING TIMES**

My father had a saying he used in times of

great contentment and joy. I can still hear him saying “Well, now, this is as good as it gets!” These were the times when he was surrounded by his family and friends, with lots of good food and fellowship and of course the home made music jam sessions that went along with it. He would be so happy you couldn’t wipe the smile off his face. I agree it was indeed the best of times as I look back from the age that he was then. It seemed during those times that nothing would dare interfere in our happiness and joy in each other. Praising the Lord was always at the top of the agenda in those reunions. We’d take time out for prayer and short devotionals (sometime not so short in the case of my cousin Jody, a preacher). But our lives on earth are not a continual “Rocky Mountain High”. Jesus’ most loved disciples had to learn that when they came down from their own “mountain top experience”.

There’s the business of every day work to attend to and there are the tragic moments that must be accepted and dealt with. We

experience great disappointments in our daily lives, some from forces beyond our control and some from those of our own making. Our older generation begins to die all together too early and much too close together. Our lives are suddenly struck by a tragic loss that seems too hard for the bravest of God’s children to bear. How in the world do we keep our faith in these times, let alone actually praise God, giving Him thanks in all things. What do we do about God and our feelings toward Him when we or one of our family members develop an illness that could very well be terminal? How do we get through those days, let alone invite the Savior to experience our fears and hurts with us, while we still hold on to our love and trust in His supreme goodness? These are tough questions and even the most devout theologians cannot supply all the answers for us. Let me say right here that I or Dick can’t supply all those answers either. We do try to live day to day and not to project into the future too much. That has been a starting place for us. But you might ask “How do you do that?.” That to me is the problem. There are so many verses to call upon that tell us what we should do in time of great conflict, but they don’t always tell us how to do it.

As Dick and I continue on the emotional roller coaster we find ourselves asking these very questions. Some of the answers are

beginning to take shape in our hearts and we would like to share them as we grow. We are not alone in our questions and God given answers. It would be such a privilege to share time with you either in person or in letters. I know there are many in our church family who are going through such troubled waters. Let's be lifeguards for each other. We must as brothers and sisters in Christ sustain each other. Once we have learned how to do that we can be the lighthouse keeper for the unbelieving world around us. Remember, our basic question is how do we go on worshiping our loving God in times of severe trouble?

Dick and I love each one of you and we are looking forward to sharing our experience along with yours. Won't you please share your feelings with us? We need not use your name in any of the articles if you would rather not, but you can still be an unbelievable blessing to the congregation. We hope to continue these articles in the upcoming newsletter and the weekly bulletins.

Love in Christ,

Dick and Susie Schorfhaar



**POINSETTIA  
TREE DONATIONS**

This year we are going to offer Parents and Grandparents a chance to buy small

poinsettia plants to fill the tree stand that Luke Helsel bought for Church in the Hills. Each plant will cost \$3.75 each. These plants can be in honor or memory of your children, grandchildren or anyone else you would like to honor. Please sign up on the sign up sheet and fill out an order form. We need 45 plants to fill the tree.



**USHERS AND  
WORSHIP COMMITTEE**

**NEWS**

There will be a joint Worship and Usher Committee Meeting on

November 10<sup>th</sup> at 2:15pm, Wednesday. The following people should plan to attend if possible. If your are working or are out of town I will try to set up a special meeting with you later to brief you on our discussion and get your inputs.

Sue Schorfhaar, Duane Ferris, Dick Milock, Andrew Pomerville, Ann Havenstein Eugene Selden and Cynthia Tschudy and Dee Lynch should be there at 2:00 to discuss the children's service in January. Dee and Cynthia can be dismissed and we will begin our usher and worship committee session.

Those arriving at 2:15 should be:

Sharon Frey, Jeff and Deb Braden, Greg Stover, Bob Drudge, Paul DeLange, Don

Hoyt, Olga Cairns Edena Williams, David Macbeth, Jim Oaklief and anyone else who would like to be a part of the Usher or Worship Committee.

Thank you to everyone who has signed up to be a new usher.

To those of you who are considering being a part of the **Van Service** from Meadowbrook to Church in the Hills, a special thank you. This is such an important mission outreach to our community. In the coming years it will continue to grow. I'm sure God will show his good pleasure to those called to this work.

Susie Schorfhaar, Elder for Worship



## HELPING HANDS

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### Reaching Out . . . Helping Others

**PRAISE GOD and THANK YOU** for reaching out and helping others in Antrim County . Our mission committee at Church in the Hills adopted the “Reaching Out . . . Helping Others” logo last year and I think God has placed that mission in the hearts of our church family in so many ways. The first of October we asked for donations of winter clothes because we planned a

“Clothing Giveaway/Exchange” on October 23<sup>rd</sup>. The response was overwhelming! We had more than enough clothes to give out on Saturday and because many people brought more items we had an abundance to take to Good Samaritans. I told Pastor Andrew and our committee on Friday that we had the “loaves and fishes” now we need the multitudes. God sent them! We had 55 people that came and took clothing for themselves, their friends and relatives. Everyone was grateful for what they received . . . I will never forget the Grandma that gave Jean Berry a big hug and said “Thank you so much! You have no idea how much this will help!” We decided to keep the coats that were left as seed for the next event. We are planning another Giveaway/Exchange on November 13<sup>th</sup>. Winter is coming and I feel certain there are more people that could use the coats we have. If you or family members have coats or other winter clothes you would like to donate, please bring them to the Church anytime.

Church in the Hills is “Reaching Out” in many other ways. The Community Meal continues to serve others as well as those who dedicate time and energy to the Youth Center in town. The Food Pantry receives regular financial contributions through Missions as well as food donations from the congregation. Supporting Breast Cancer Awareness and participating in the 2010 Crop Walk are other great examples of the concern we have for those in need of assistance in Antrim County. Our

participation in the Shoebox Ministry in November will truly help children experience some Christmas Joy in areas where there is so little. Once again . . . THANK YOU and may God Bless all of you as our winter season begins.

Mary Ann Waara, Elder for Missions



Ladies are your fingers itching for a job? We have yarn available to make hats and scarves for our Christmas Families and for those in need this winter. If you knit or crochet we have every color yarn you can imagine and would love it if you would join us in making the hats scarves. Come in to the office Monday -Thursday between 8am -12 or 1-5p.m. to pick up your yarn.

**PRESBYTERY OF MACKINAC YEARBOOK OF PRAYER 2010-2011**  
**NOVEMBER 7, 2010**  
**UNION PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, DETOUR VILLAGE**

Of tremendous joy to the congregational family of Union Presbyterian church is the friendly, caring people of our community. Our church is used for meetings and exercise groups. We have a very successful

mission and outreach in DeTour and surrounding area. Among projects we have sponsored are a health fair with the Synod Health Mobile in attendance; a "Trunk and Treat" and Carmel Apple give away during community "Happy Apple Days; Community collection of clothing, bedding and food for the local Food Pantry and for the Angel Free Store in Calumet, MI and summer vesper services. Our church was instrumental in forming a Habitat for Humanity group that now encompasses an ecumenical group including contractors, craftsmen, and volunteers. In November, just over a year from being formed, a family will be moving into their Habitat for Humanity home

Please pray for Union Presbyterian Church as we experience a dwindling congregation, for financial stability, and for insight to the future direction of ministry in DeTour.

We will soon begin a mission or reflective study to develop a unique role model for ministry in DeTour; and it is our hope that this study will help us to grow and change, to bring new members into the church, and meet the spiritual needs of our community.

**NOVEMBER 14, 2010**  
**ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH,**  
**BEULAH**

The St. Andrew's Presbyterians have created a **STAMP** act. **ST. Andrews Mission Project**. Over 45 volunteers spent five days

**NOVEMBER 21,2010**  
**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF**  
**NEWBERRY**

this last August helping to repair homes within their local area. Eight homes were selected with the help of a local screening organization and then the volunteers went to work making those homes safer, warmer and drier. Roof repair, window and door replacement, insulation, electrical work, and carpentry projects kept the workers fully engaged and very satisfied that they were able to make a difference. A Mission Initiative Grant from the Presbytery helped make this project possible.

83 beautiful hand-knit sweaters were dedicated in the fall after friends and members had been working on them for over a year. It was time to celebrate and to get them into the hands of children who will be cold this winter!

Another mission project involves the cutting of wood in the late summer and fall, which is then sold and proceeds donated to the local food bank. And still another is the goal of parishioner Norm Plumstead to help raise funds to build schools in Africa through an organization "On the Ground".

Don and Carol Mead continue to be advocates and educators for the Palestinian Peace efforts in the Middle East, leading several trips to that part of the world.

The unique leadership of a clergy couple, Kyle Segars and Shelaine Bird has enhanced the ability of the congregation to be creative and active in their ministry together.

First Church of Newberry has a membership of 70 people with about 55 attending regularly. The church is run by four teams: Worship, Deacons, Outreach and Financial. The majority of our members are on at least one team. The church is used by the Boy Scouts; a quilting group and 4-H. We have a coffee fellowship hour every Sunday. Members take turns serving. It is a special time that everyone cherishes. We supply a nursery. Members take turns being a lay reader. Between New Year and Lent there is a nine week Bible study.

The joys in our church are that our congregation is a wonderful group that gets along and likes each other. We work well together on projects. We make needlepoint banners for our centennial.

We as a church donate to Basic Mission, Gambell Church, Theological Fund and coats for CCCF. Locally, we give food baskets, support Diane Pepler Center, Methodist Church Peanut Butter & Jelly project, Project Backpack, Kudos for Kids (a gift certificate that law enforcement hands out to kids that do good things), and gas, food, and medical cards for people in emergency situations. We hosted a Thanks Dinner for the service people in our community. We support a young lad in Uganda. We sponsor a community garden. We sponsor a child every year to Camp New

Day, and contribute to a Senior All-Nighter party, the local Walk for Diabetes, and the Local Firemen's Education Fund

Our Women's group is large. We have numerous money makers to support our many missions. The biggest concern we have is membership. We have declined in the last few years but don't have a clear idea on how to draw new people in. Finances are also a concern, the two go together.

Our hopes for the future are increased membership, more young people and to start some innovative interesting programs. We will continue to live by our motto: ***Centered in Christ,  
Inspired by Love,  
Moved to Action.***

**NOVEMBER 28, 2010**

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ELK  
RAPIDS**

A JOY to celebrate at FPC Elk Rapids:

In 2000, first Presbyterian church of Elk Rapids established a new vision, "Vision 2020", As a result, ten priorities were identified as a beginning plan of action to lead our church into ever greater service to God as we entered a new century.

The intent was that Vision 2020 would be "dynamic, subject to frequent review, to change, to the greater wisdom and experience that future leaders of this church may possess, and certainly to where God may choose to lead". At the conclusion

of a daylong retreat Feb. 2010 an updated Vision 2020 was formulated and was formally adopted in March of 2010. We again have ten priorities, some of the formers ones modified, some eliminated because they were accomplished and some new, based on current needs.

Accomplishing these will move us a step closer to meeting our Mission:

***Introduce Jesus Christ to those who do not know him;***


***Deepen the faith and commitment of those who already know Him;***

***Demonstrate Christ's way of love in service to the world.***

We ask for prayers as we begin implanting our "Vision 2020 Update: which will guide us into the second decade of the twenty-first century. We ask prayers of our pastor nominating committee as we prepare for a new installed Senior Pastor. Please pray for those who are developing our Praise and Worship services which are now held monthly. Pray that those not currently worshiping on a regular basis will find this as an avenue to know their Savior. Pray that those who are currently at FPC may gain a new and deeper understanding of their Savoir through this expanded opportunity to worship Him.

**HAVE A WONDERFUL  
THANKSGIVING**

# NOVEMBER 2010

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
	1 9:00 am Gentle Touch	2 9:00 am Sermon preview 10:00 Women's Bible Study 7:00 p.m. Mission	3 3:00 pm Youth Group 7:00 p.m Choir	4 9:00 am Men's Rap 10:15 am Finance 3:15 Youth Group 7:00 pm Spirituality Untapped	5 Pastor Sabbath	6
7 10:30 Worship Service	8 9:00 am Gentle Touch	9 9:00 am Sermon Preview 10:00 am Women's Bible Study 6:30 p.m Deacons	10 9:00 am Session 2:00 pm Usher and Worship 3:00 pm Youth Group 7:00 p.m Choir	11 9:00 am Men's Rap 10:30 Christian Ed 3:15 Youth Group 7:00 pm Spirituality Untapped	12 Pastor Sabbath	13 Clothing Give away and Exchange
14 10:30 Worship Service	15 9:00 am Gentle Touch	16 9:00 am Sermon Preview 10:00 am Women's Bible Study	17 3:00 pm Youth Group 7:00 p.m Choir	18 9:00 am Men's Rap 3:15 Youth Group 7:00 pm Spirituality Untapped	19 Pastor Sabbath	20
21 10:30 Worship Service	22 9:00 am Gentle Touch	23 9:00 am Sermon Preview 10:00 am Women's Bible Study	24	25 <b>Thanksgiving</b>  <i>Thanksgiving</i>	26 Pastor Sabbath	27
28 10:30 Worship Rev. Duane Ferris Preaching Hanging of the Greens	29 9:00 am Gentle Touch	30 9:00 am Sermon Preview 10:00 am Women's Bible	31			

**CHURCH IN THE HILLS**  
*A Presbyterian Community of*  
*Faith and Friendship in Christ*

6401 Shanty Creek Road Bellaire, Michigan 49615

Phone: 231-533-6001

**OFFICE EMAIL:**

[Churchinthehills@charterinternet.com](mailto:Churchinthehills@charterinternet.com)

**WEBSITE**

[www.churchinthehills.org](http://www.churchinthehills.org)

Service of Worship Sunday 10:30 a.m.  
Children's Program: 10:30 a.m. Sunday

**OFFICE HOURS**

Monday-Thursday 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. 12-1 Lunch  
Secretary Cindy Overby

**Church in the Hills is a member of the**  
**Presbytery of Mackinac**  
**The Synod of the Covenant**  
**The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)**

Church in the Hills  
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**Reverend Andrew Pomerville**

**231-350-1186**

[pastorandrew@charterinternet.com](mailto:pastorandrew@charterinternet.com)

Clerk of Session: Dottie Schaefer 377-7848

**Class of 2010**

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Ron Lynch	Membership	377-7077
Bob Peters	Building	544-3613
Bob McClelland	Grounds	533-9408

**Class of 2011**

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Bob Schaefer	Personnel	377-7848
Fred Harris	Finance	533-6105
Sue Schorfhaar	Worship	533-5071

**Class of 2012**

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Cynthia Tschudy	C. Education	544-6167
Ted Whittlesey	Finance	377-9304
Mary Ann Waara	Mission	533-9340
Kathy Munger	Treasurer	533-4733
Dorothy Clore	Choir/Organist	331-6587
Edena Williams	PW of CITH:	533-8598

Reverend Mr. Donald E. Gordon, Pastor Emeritus

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