

## The Messenger

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**Purpose:** To keep the congregation informed of church functions, program, and other news, and to inspire to fulfill its mission, through publication of a monthly bulletin.

**Deadline for copy:** The 20th of each month. The Messenger will not print any articles that promote a personal position on issues that are political or controversial in the public arena.

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# The Messenger

Newsletter of The Walhalla Presbyterian Church and The West Union Chapel  
Volume No. 146 Issue No. 1

January 2011

## Vince's View



Dear Family & Friends of Walhalla Presbyterian Church and West Union Chapel,

Are you ready for 2011? We don't know for certain what a day may bring forth, much less what may happen in a year. Are you ready? Clayton M. Christensen, a Christian professor of Business Administration at Harvard Business School, suggests that finding the best answer to the following three questions is crucial to being ready--- for life, and for every new year.

**First Question:** How can I be sure that I'll be happy?

Too many MBA students come to Harvard Business School thinking that a business career means buying, selling and investing in companies. They've got it all wrong. The deepest rewards in business, retirement or any sphere of endeavor in life come from **building people up**. Life at home or at work is lived at its best when our aim is to bless the people around us. As we work each day to help others around us to learn and grow, we will always receive back much more than we give. As we strive to be at peace in cooperation and fellowship with all people, we will discover the deep joy of true teamwork, significant accomplishments and lasting community.

**Second Question:** How can I be sure that my relationships with my spouse and my family become an enduring source of happiness?

Christensen observes: Over the years I've watched the fates of my HBS classmates from 1979 unfold; I've seen more and more of them come to reunions unhappy, divorced, and alienated from their children. I can guarantee you that not a single one of them graduated with the deliberate strategy of getting divorced and raising children who would become estranged from them. And yet a shocking number of them implemented that strategy.

The reason? They didn't keep the purpose of their lives front and center as they decided how to spend their time, talents, and energy.

When I was a Rhodes scholar, I was in a very demanding academic program, trying to cram an extra year's worth of work into my time at Oxford. **I decided to spend an hour every night reading, thinking, and praying about why God put me on this earth.** That was a very challenging commitment to keep, because every hour I spent doing that, I wasn't studying applied econometrics. I was conflicted about whether I could really afford to take that time away from my studies, but I stuck with it—and ultimately figured out the purpose of my life.

Had I instead spent that hour each day learning the latest techniques for mastering the problems of autocorrelation in regression analysis, I would have badly misspent my life. time and energy and talent. I apply the tools of econometrics a few times a year, but I apply my knowledge of the purpose of my life every day. It's the single most useful thing I've ever learned.

**Third Question:** How can I be sure I'll stay out of jail?

Christensen explains: Though the last question sounds lighthearted, it's not. Two of the 32 people in my Rhodes scholar class spent time in jail. Jeff Skilling of Enron fame was a classmate of mine at HBS. These were good guys—but something in their lives derailed them.

**Avoid the "Marginal Costs" Mistake.** We're taught in finance and economics that in evaluating alternative investments, we should ignore sunk and fixed costs, and instead base decisions on the marginal costs and marginal revenues that each alternative entails.

This erroneous doctrine biases companies **to leverage what they have put in place to succeed in the past, instead of guiding them to create the capabilities they'll need in the future.** If we knew the future would be exactly the same as the past, that approach would be fine. But if the future's different --and it almost always is—then it's the wrong thing to do.

We often employ the marginal cost doctrine in our personal lives when we choose between right and wrong. A voice in our head says, "Look, I know that as a general rule, most people shouldn't do this. But in this particular extenuating circumstance, **just this once, it's OK.**"

The marginal cost of doing something wrong "just this once" always seems alluringly low. It suckers you in, and you don't ever look at where that path ultimately is headed and at the full costs. Justification for infidelity and dishonesty in all their manifestations lies in the marginal cost economics of "just this once."

The lesson I learned from this is that it's easier to hold to your principles 100% of the time than it is to hold to them 98% of the time. If you give in to "just this once," based on a marginal cost analysis, as some of my former classmates have done, you'll regret where you end up. You've got to define for yourself what you stand for and draw the line in a safe place.

I've concluded that the metric by which God will assess my life isn't dollars but the individual people whose lives I've touched with His love. I think that's the way it will work for us all. Don't worry about the level of individual prominence you have achieved; worry about the individuals you have helped become better people. (Christensen, Clayton, *How Will You Measure Your Life?*, [Harvard Business Review](http://Harvard Business Review), July 2010)

Get ready for 2011. Trust God's best way for all of us in Jesus Christ (John 14:6).

With you in His hands,

# The Messenger

January 2011 Edition

A publication of Walhalla Presbyterian Church and  
West Union Chapel



Surely, goodness and mercy  
shall follow me  
all the days of my life,  
and I shall dwell  
in the house of the Lord forever.  
**Psalm 23:6**



## From Your Session

Submitted by Rosemary Bailes

There are no Session Highlights this month because your Session did not meet during the month of December. Regular Highlights will resume in the February 2011 *Messenger*.

The year's end brought changes in our active Session membership. From the Class of 2010, we said a sad goodbye to Bob Tinsley upon his earthly death on November 12. Additionally, Rosemary Bailes and John Lay completed their active service. Elected to the Class of 2013 were Don Manly, Susan Neal, Deb Wickliffe, and Tim Wooten. Continuing in their three-year terms of service are: Class of 2011: Doug Keel, Annette Morrah, Gene Nix, and Sam Rochester, and Class of 2012: Lynda Alexander, Lamar Bailes, John Palmer, and Harry Silsby. This is the group whom you elected and who have been ordained to lead and govern Walhalla Presbyterian Church and West Union Chapel.

Please support these elders with your prayers, encouragement, constructive criticism, and friendship. They are here to love, lead, govern, and serve you in the name of our Lord. **YOUR SESSION PRAYS FOR YOU REGULARLY; PLEASE PRAY FOR YOUR SESSION REGULARLY.**

While I am no longer in active service as an elder, I am privileged to continue as your Clerk of Session. My responsibilities, as stated in the *Book of Order*, are to record the transactions of the Session, keep its rolls of membership and attendance, and preserve church records. In that role, I also need and request your prayers.

With Pastor Vince Alig, the Session, and our two congregations working together in accordance with God's calling and the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we can look forward confidently to an exciting year of worship, Christian service and mission, and fellowship. I encourage you to be an active participant in as many activities of our church (WPC and WUC) as possible. Our church life cannot be complete without you. As one of the dear members at WUC says, **EVEN ONE IS ALWAYS MISSED.**

May God richly bless you and those you love during the year on which we are embarking. Who knows where He may lead us within these twelve months!

Sincerely and humbly,

Rosemary Bailes, Clerk of Session

# Rest and Reflection, Good for Body and Soul

By Donna Riggs

Thanksgiving Day, 2010, a graceful yellow butterfly was weaving amongst the shrubs and I thought, "Sweetie, you better find some shelter, winter is coming." That day, I had wonderful foods planned for dinner at my younger son's home, across the way. The day was sunny and beautiful. Of this fine food items, I was able to prepare three; they were doing the turkey, etc. On the previous Monday, I had a ripping sore throat and by Wednesday night, a fever and the tell-tale signs of acute bronchitis. In my memory, I had never missing being surrounded by family on Thanksgiving. Sentimental, I realize, but poignant nonetheless. I was delighted though, four of the family served at Our Daily Bread that day. The twins had kind things to say about their experience.

Blessed I have been and if you have such gentle, happy memories now and then, count them all blessings—the kind that stick with you. There is one thing to be said about being sidelined by a temporary illness. There is much time for contemplation. So, that is what I did, in between involuntary bouts of coughing.

Touching on special remembrances of 2010, you also may want to reflect back. (Like the person typing this, who recently became a grandmother). There were good times, bountiful times, fun times, worrisome times, rejoicing times, singing times, crying times and helpless times, courageous times, planning and productive times and if you were fortunate, quiet times. (Read Ecclesiastes 3:1-8).

Yet, I can't leave it at that. Amidst all the daily, nightly praying times, life was happening. First granddaughter graduated WHS; the intensely heated summer caused my husband to experience scary breathing difficulties; the chapel choir had eight cancer friends and twenty-five-plus other intercessions we prayed for on Wednesday nights, continuing even now; received a large homemade loaf of bread from a neighbor; another neighbor baked sweet treats for my husband, because he's a good guy; and the fact I became a different kind of Lord's servant—preaching twice from the chapel's pulpit.

Woven through the year were exceptional moments, enjoying our newest granddaughter, just one year old, watching her in health and happiness; realizing our eighteen-year old twin grandsons were growing into young men we are proud of; privileged to watch them March in cadence on Veteran's Day, with their six-platoon unit of Jr. ROTC from WHS and shortly after that day, we enjoyed a marvelous concert of the All-County Middle School and High School bands in a band clinic; the twins, each selected on their particular instruments; the space and opportunity to write for *The Messenger*; personal joys with our special "chapel choir and friends", as we practiced week to week on our choral music for the Advent-Christmas Service; the feeling of expectation, comfort and appreciation for so many people who participated in that service; knowing rarely one day passes that I don't learn something valuable and more often, it is from God's Word; all the tidbits and memory-joggers given me when I forget—yes, it's happening!; the poems and thoughtful renderings that appear on my music stand—just minutes of smiles, yet worthy; our visits with siblings and friends in West Virginia and Pennsylvania were heartwarming and brought us gladness and great photos; my eighteen pretty pansy plants surrounding Saint Francis of Assisi and his animal friends in the garden; and in December, the sight of our constant companions, the cardinals, and a new ring of bright green grass under our new, fifth feeder station!

2010 is History; but along with my reflections, I miss absent friends and 2011 will not change this. Be blessed and know it! Remember, the Lord loves you through other people, all the days of your life.

Amen.

# Hymn of the Month

Submitted by: Doug Keel

## *I Need Thee Every Hour* 1872

*Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think of anything as  
Being from ourselves, but our sufficiency is from God.*  
2 Corinthians 3:5

**I**

In his book, *The practice of the Presence of God*, Brother Lawrence claimed to be as close to God while working in the kitchen as when praying the chapel. The Lord, after all, is always near us, thus where ever we are is holy ground. That was the experience of Annie Hawks, a housewife and mother of three in Brooklyn, New York.

As a child, Annie Sherwood had dabbled in poetry, her first verse being published when she was fourteen. In 1857, she married Charles Hawks and they established their home in Brooklyn, joining Dr. Robert Lowry's Hanson Place Baptist Church.\* With the good doctor's encouragement, she began writing Sunday school songs for children, and he set many of them to music.

"I Need Thee Every Hour" was written on a bright June morning in 1872. Annie later wrote, "One day as a young wife and mother of 37 years of age, I was busy with my regular household tasks. Suddenly, I became so filled with the sense of nearness to the Master that, wondering how one could live without Him, either in joy or pain, these words, 'I Need Thee Every Hour,' were ushered into my mind, the thought at once taking full possession of me."

The next Sunday, Annie handed these words to Dr. Lowry, who wrote the tune and chorus while seated at the little organ in the living room of his Brooklyn parsonage. Later that year, it was sung for the first time at the National Baptist Sunday School Association meeting in Cincinnati, Ohio, and published in a hymnbook the following year.

When Annie's husband died sixteen years later, she found that her own hymn was among her greatest comforts. "I did not understand at first why this hymn had touched the great throbbing heart of humanity," Annie wrote. 'It was not until long after, when the shadow fell over my way, the shadow of a great loss, that I understood something of the comforting power in the words which I had been permitted to give out to others in my hour of sweet serenity and peace.'

Some time after Charles' death, Annie moved to Bennington, Vermont, to live with her daughter and son-in-law. All in all, she wrote over four hundred hymns during her eighty-three years, though only this one is still widely sung.



## LUNCH FOR LIFE

By Carol Silsby

Lunch for Life will be served Saturday, January 15th from 12pm to 1pm. If you would like to assist in preparing meals, serving, or through a donation, please contact Carol Silsby.



## FAMILY NIGHT SUPPER

The Wednesday Night Dinner will be on January 12th will feature a meal prepared by the Fellowship Team. We will enjoy BBQ, beans, chips, dessert and beverage. The cost for the meal will be \$5. Please see your bulletin insert to make your reservation or call the church office at 638-3627.

We will have a program featuring the D.A.R. School.

## Special Invitation

The Board of Deacons of Seneca Presbyterian Church invites you to attend "**Thinking Ahead Workshops—End of Life Issues**" on January 22, 2011 at the Seneca Presbyterian Church, 115 W, South First Street. (Corner of Oak and South First Street). The purpose of the workshops is to help people think ahead in planning and preparing for end of life issues. The four workshops will address legal concerns, funeral planning and disposition options, faith and emotional issues, and Hospice care. The cost for one, or all four workshops is \$10 per person. Lunch will be offered for \$5 per person. Registration deadline is 1/5/2011. Register early as space is limited. See Becky, the church secretary to pick up a registration form. Any questions you may call 882-0275 or email to ebushey17@gmail.com.

## Walhalla Presbyterian Church Rosters January 2011

- 2nd** Communion Sunday Prep – TBA  
Lay Reader– Gene Nix  
Head Usher— Lamar Bailes  
Counters— John Palmer & Harry Silsby
- 9th** Flowers in the Church— Available  
Lay Reader— Harry Silsby  
Head Usher— John Palmer  
Counters— John Palmer & Harry Silsby
- 16th** Flowers in the Church— Available  
Lay Reader— Daniel Wright  
Head Usher— Sam Rochester  
Counters – John Palmer & Harry Silsby
- 23rd** Flowers in the Church— Available  
Lay Reader— Doug Keel  
Head Usher— Bob Bartell  
Counters –J ohn Palmer & Harry Silsby
- 30th** Flowers in the Church— Available  
Lay Reader— Lynda Alexander  
Head Usher— Art Shick  
Counters— John Palmer & Harry Silsby

## ...BIRTHDAY...

- 1/11 Maria Macaulay  
1/14 Earle Echols  
1/14 Dianne Harris  
1/15 Alisa Alig  
1/15 Frank Forbes  
1/15 Don Rumer  
1/23 Deborah Darby  
1/25 Margaret Williams  
1/29 Lindsay Wickliffe  
1/29 Cora Long  
1/30 Alex Macaulay  
1/31 Mary Belle Nix



## ...ANNIVERSARY



- 1/5 Ronnie & Kitty Coffey  
1/8 Ennis & Mattie McCall  
1/18 Jack & Laura Wyatt



**Walhalla Church Services**  
 9:45AM Sunday School  
 11:00AM Sunday Worship

# January 2011

**West Union Chapel Services**  
 9:45 AM Sunday School  
 11:00AM Sunday Worship  
 4:30 PM Sunday Bible Study

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
*Every Sunday 4:30pm Bible Study at West Union Chapel Fellowship Hall * First Sunday of the month, Prayer and Healing Service 6pm at WPC (moved this month to 12/19)			*Choir Practice Wednesday nights 7:00pm at WPC & WUC 		*Every Friday 8:00am Old Joe Men's Breakfast—Kountry Kupboard 	
						1
<b>2</b> Communion Sunday at WPC  Prayer and Healing Service 6:00pm at WPC	<b>3</b> Back to School	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> Choir Practice resumes	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>9</b> WUC Board Meeting 8:30am  Communion at WUC 11:am	<b>10</b> 7pm Evangelism Team Meeting	<b>11</b> Startup Good News Club 2:45pm at Walhalla Elementary  5:15pm Missions Team Meeting	<b>12</b> Family Night Supper 6:00pm	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> WPC serves Lunch 4 Life 11am 1pm  Elder Training 9am—noon/WPC
<b>16</b> Third Sunday Lunch at WUC  Annual Congregational Meeting 12:15pm Luncheon	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> Good News Club 2:45—WES	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> Messenger Deadline	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b> Sanctity of Human Life Sunday	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> Good News Club 2:45—WES	<b>26</b> Session Meeting 5:30pm	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> Elder Training 9am—noon/WPC Fellowship Hall
<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>					



## *Presbyterians in the Kitchen*

### Mexican Fruitcake

Submitted by Doris Cash

- 2 cups all purpose flour
- 2 teaspoons baking soda
- 2 eggs
- 1 20 oz. can crushed pineapple with juice
- 1 cup chopped pecans
- 2 cups sugar
- 1 teaspoon pineapple flavoring

Mix eggs, sugar and pineapple (including the juice) together. Add flour, soda, nuts, and flavoring. Mix well and pour into a 9x13 pan. Bake at 350 for 30-35 minutes. Note: you can use vanilla flavoring or 1/2 teaspoon vanilla and 1/2 teaspoon almond in place of the pineapple flavor.

**Icing:**

- 1 8 oz. cream cheese
- 12/ stick oleo or butter
- 1 box powdered sugar

Cream the oleo and cream cheese together, beat in the powdered sugar and spread on cool cake.

This is very good even without the frosting.

### Good News From Foothills Pregnancy Care Center

**I Will Never Be Able to Thank Them Enough!**  
 Posted by: Sommer, 12/13/10 at 09:08:50 AM

The people at Foothills Pregnancy Care Center are some of the nicest people you will ever meet.

They took time to answer all of the questions I had and I really enjoyed watching the teaching videos. I learned a lot from them - even things I thought I knew but didn't! It really helped me out to come here and do the work to earn Mommy Money. To me, one of the best things was earning money to get the items I needed for my baby girl. I will never be able to thank them enough. I made friends here.



This precious little girl is Roxy - Sommer's pride and joy!

### Prayer and Healing Service at WPC Continues January 2nd at 6pm

"Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed.

The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working."  
 James 5:16

This NEW informal service will usually be held on the FIRST SUNDAY of each month.

There is great power for God's good released when His people COME TOGETHER for PRAYER. Bring a friend and your prayer requests.