



3640

# PROGRESS-IMMANUEL PRESBYTERIAN

## CHURCH

### PIPC Messenger

Ash St., Harrisburg, PA

### JANUARY 2010

## To Live Generously

Every so often I am reminded of the trip my family took to visit the good people in Malawi. What remains vivid in my memory is the joy in which our Presbyterian brothers and sisters give of themselves and of their treasure. I can still hear the women singing and see them dancing as they come forward with their gifts of stewardship during worship. They gladly place before the Lord and before one another their bountiful offering. Even in their poverty they manage to live generously.

The week before Christmas I received the following correspondence:

*Greetings for the Christmas season from the CCAP Synod of Livingstonia.*

*We write to inform you about the Earth Quake disaster which has struck Karonga District in the northern region of Malawi resulting in over 16,000 people needing emergency assistance.*

*From 7th December 09, Karonga district has been seriously affected by a series of Earth Quakes, some of which registered 5.8 on Richter scale. One child has so far died and 15 people sustained various forms of injuries. Over 2000 people are homeless and the number will increase.*

*There is severe destruction of infrastructure, schools, people's houses, churches and other buildings and some schools are closed down, while some people are being evacuated from some area where the earth quake has developed cracks and hot and dirty water erupts from the ground. Metrological and Geologist experts warn of health hazards as a result of eruptions.*

*Today the Head of State is visiting the area and he may declare a state of disaster. Even if he doesn't, people's lives are at a stake as houses continue to fall. Find attached hereto the assessment report compiled by the department and type of assistance that is urgently required.*

*As usual we look forward to your support as the Synod through its emergency and Development Department plans its intervention. For the work that we intend to do we request US\$1,000,000 (MK140,000,000.00).*

*Looking forward to hearing from you soon.*

*Yours sincerely,*

*REV L N NYONDO, SYNOD GENERAL SECRETARY*

What a sad and devastating event during the season of Advent. Folk who have very little, now have even less. Health and safety issues are becoming more and more widespread. Yet I have heard that their faith in God, their joy in the coming of Jesus Christ, and their confidence in fellow Christians from the States, continue to provide hope for their future. I imagine them still dancing and singing.

As we begin a new year and a new decade I pray that our faith will have as much joy and hope as our friends in Malawi. I pray, too, that we can find ways in which to assist and bring encouragement to our Malawian brothers and sisters.

May we dance and sing in the presence of God and each other. May we share from our abundance, and proclaim the Good News of our God with us - Emmanuel.

I look forward to a faithful and joy-filled 2010 of mission and ministry together.

Pastor Kent

# THANK YOU



Dear Friends,

Heartfelt thanks to Rev. Carter for his hospital visits, your cards, phone calls, and the flowers delivered by Stephanie Hartman.

Love, Pauline Burrell

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Dear PIPC,

The members of the Joint Camp and Conference Committee and the members of the Krislund Staff thank you for your generous gift for the Annual Fund Account of Krislund. We are grateful for your thoughtful Christian stewardship to this camp ministry of the Presbyteries. Thank you for this gift!

With gratitude, Mark Englund-Krieger

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Dear Progress-Immanuel Presbyterian Church,

Thank you so much for your kindness. We appreciated the use of your facilities for our annual Halloween party.

Mothers Helping Others at Home

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Dear Progress-Immanuel Presbyterian Church,

Thank you so much for the Christmas care package you sent me! With finals just around the corner, this care package was exactly what I needed to help get me through the rest of the semester. Thank you again!

Merry Christmas, Rebekah Frischkorn

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Dear Friends at Progress-Immanuel Presbyterian Church,

Thank you so much for your generous donation to Habitat for Humanity of the Greater Harrisburg Area. Your gift will help us continue our mission of eliminating poverty housing. Thank you again for being a partner in our ministry.

Sincerely, Eve Wachhaus  
Executive Director

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Dear Church Members,

Thank you so much for your contribution to Christian Churches United. Your generous support of the ministries Christian Churches United means so much to the people we help and to the Tri-County community. We thank you again for your kindness and generosity.

Yours sincerely, Jacqueline Rucker  
Executive Director

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Dear PIPC Family,

Thank you so much for the care package you sent. It was such a surprise to receive all those goodies. Thank you for your support of my studies while away at college. Thank you for thinking of me during this holiday season and may God bless you all!

Thank you & Merry Christmas, Eryn Frischkorn

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Note from the Building & Grounds Committee-We recently removed a wide variety of items and trash from the mechanical room in the basement of our church. It appeared as though this room has been used for depositing items for many years. Please do not use the mechanical room as a depository for items and supplies when you're not sure what else to do with it. If you feel it's something that should be stored there, please check with a member of the Building & Grounds Committee.



**Building & Grounds Committee**



**WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION**

Thanks to everyone who helped to present another successful evening on the first night of Advent. Everyone looks forward to the good fellowship, happy time, and good food that always happens. Special thanks go to the 18 very special performers who made "The Twelve Months of Christmas" a memorable occasion: Norm Diefenderfer, George Eakin, Charley Miller, Peg and Bub Manning, Jennifer Hernandez-Lerch and Alicea Carpenter, Devon and Dillon Linville, Nancy Travis, Janet McLane, Janet Smith, Kim, Alyssa, and Katie Burr, Jan, Seth and Sarah Carter. Because they were having so much fun, we all had fun.

Additional thanks need to go to our pianist, Ellie Boyer, who successfully met a difficult challenge; June Rounsley, who helped in so many unseen areas and especially with the carol-sing; Norm Diefenderfer who set up all the sound equipment (and then took it all down and put it away); Marge Barner who again made a meal that everyone wanted to come and eat; and Eileen Miller and Marilyn Zimmerman for technical assistance.

The next meeting of the Women's Association will be held on January 10, 2010, in Fellowship hall immediately after the worship services. A light lunch will be served. There will be a sign-up sheet placed on the bulletin board.



**The 2010 Flower Chart/Bulletin Sign-up Sheet**

may be found in the Narthex. If you would like to honor or remember someone by placing flowers or bulletins on a Sunday in 2010, please sign up. The cost of the flower for 2010 will be \$27.50 and the cost of the bulletin will be \$10.

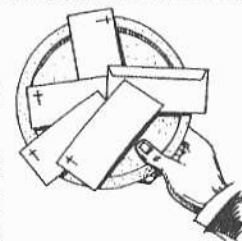
**Extra Giving - Where Do our Dollars Go?**

Progress-Immanuel Presbyterian Church continues to share abundantly with special offerings and giving opportunities. This is how those offerings are dispersed:

**One Great Hour of Sharing** - to help with disaster related ministries globally; **Pentecost** - to assist with children at risk, youth and young adult ministries nationally; **Peacemaking** - to assist with ministries associated with justice and peace issues; **Christmas Joy** - to supplement retired missionary servant income and tuition support for Presbyterian racial-ethnic secondary schools. PIPC keeps a percentage of the above offerings, except Christmas Joy, for our own dispersement.

The extra envelopes found in your giving box for the Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas offerings are used to supplement our own ministry for assisting individuals and families with emergency and crisis needs.

Thank you for your continued generosity.



**Worship Assistants**

Jan. 3 Mike Sweigard  
 Jan. 10 Terry Hack  
 Jan. 17 Ellie Boyer  
 Jan. 24 Kyle Bowerman  
 Jan. 31 Paulina Marshall

**Greeters Schedule**

<i>Alley Door</i>	<i>Front Door</i>
The Christeliet Family	Phyllis Hedenberg
Bill & Beulah Given	Shirley Gill
The Leader Family	Gail Diefenderfer
Lauren & Haley Barrett	Larry Hahn
Joe & Elaine Salvino	Walt Tomlison



# PIP-C GENERATION



The PIP-C generation held its Christmas celebration in Fellowship Hall with a traditional dinner of turkey, filling, mashed potatoes, gravy, green beans, and pumpkin pie. Rather than our usual buffet meal, this wonderful dinner was served to everyone, a special touch that made the event even more special. Special thanks to Marge and her crew for the delicious food and to the people who volunteered to serve. Another special note: a record number of tickets were sold for this dinner: 96. Let's keep that number for every meeting.

Adding to the festive atmosphere of the day were the lovely napkin rings that adorned every table. It has long been a tradition that a special table decoration is made for each table at the PIP-C Christmas dinner, and these decorations have always been made by Lillie Daniels. This year Lillie was assisted by her daughter Judy and Nancy Motter.

The program was given by Toni Gilhooley who portrays Mrs. Claus. She read special stories and spread lots of good cheer ... and candy canes.

Our first meeting of 2010 is on January 12; the entertainment will be by some musical home-schooled children. They play string instruments such as mandolin, harp, violin. Come and enjoy.



## PIP-C Spring Trip

March 25, 2010

"Joseph" at Sight and Sound

Cost: \$91 per person

Reservation Deadline:

February 9, 2010

### January Birthdays

Nancy Motter	3
Joyce Dimmick	4
Bob Holsberger	12
Joe Salvino	15
Stewart Robinson	17
Bruce Dimmick	30



### ANNIVERSARIES

#### January Anniversaries

Betty & Dick Schneider	14
Joyce & Harold Arnold	17



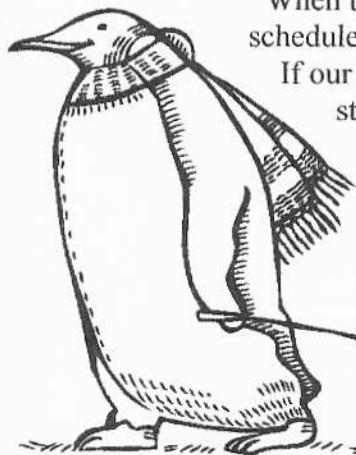
## The Days of Winter Weather are Surely Coming...

When the weather turns to snow and ice and you are wondering about the schedule at PIPC, tune to the radio and television for up-to-date information.

If our worship or activities schedule changes, the following channels and stations will carry our information:

[www.whtm.com](http://www.whtm.com), abc27,  
[www.whptv.com](http://www.whptv.com), cbs 21.

You may also call the church office to hear a recording of time changes.



# Welcome To Oakville

## Airport Evangelism

**Kent Carter**

Last summer as I was waiting for my flight from Minneapolis to Moline to board, a woman glanced up, noticed my shirt and said, “Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. Are you going someplace to volunteer?”

“Yes,” I replied. “I’m going to Oakville, Iowa, to help with the flood recovery there.” Before I could say more, the woman said,

“Oh that is such a tragic thing. I’m Presbyterian and recognized your shirt (I was wearing a deep blue t-shirt with white letters that spell out Presbyterian Disaster Assistance).”



I asked her where she was from, and found out she attends a Presbyterian church in Blackhawk Presbytery, the same presbytery I was under care during seminary. I was also able to remember the name of someone I worked with who was from her congregations. After a bit more conversation I headed down the hallway to buy a bottle of water. When I returned to the gate this woman and her mother handed me \$30 and told me it



was not much, but that I should give it to the church coordinating the effort in Oakville.

I distinctly remember her statement: “Thank you for volunteering your time to help the people of Oakville.” I was about to thank her when God put it upon my heart to reply to her differently. Instead of only accepting her gratitude, I added that the individuals who are helping are not volunteers. They are servants of Christ, serving in a way that makes a Christian difference. I added that they are serving because of the call to lend a hand in the name of Christ, that they are sent as apostles delivering God’s word of love and grace. Obviously, I said all of this in a conversational way that drew her into the conversation. She nodded her head and smiled a bit and said, “You’re right. I guess we do not volunteer. We are sent to serve. Thank you for witnessing to your faith.”

Volunteers are still needed to help with the Iowa recovery effort. Teams can register by calling the PDA Call Center at 1-866-732-6121 or by registering their availability online at the PDA Web site [www.pcusa.org/pda/teams.htm](http://www.pcusa.org/pda/teams.htm).



Oakville, Ia.



I have come to realize, through encounters like these, the words we choose to speak matter greatly. I could have let the statement about volunteering go without replying. But God decided to use that moment to share a greater truth about the work we all do as Christians. We do not simply volunteer our time and energy to good causes. We serve one another in the name of Christ. In doing so we are not volunteers; we are servants of the Servant.

Wearing that Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) shirt was a way to invite anyone who was curious to ask about the work of PDA. It also gave me the opportunity share what they do and my role with them. Beyond that, it gives me the chance to share my faith in God — evangelism.

My conversation with a Presbyterian from northern Illinois who is familiar with PDA is evangelism. The conversation allowed me to share, to witness, to be a messenger of God's love and grace. Evangelism can happen in the airport, on the street corner, in our own homes, and in church.

Upon returning home, I challenged the church for

the work of evangelism — for sharing the hope of the faith within us. In doing this, we begin by sharing our faith with others we know and trust and have faith. When we become more comfortable we can then widen the circle of sharing to include friends, acquaintances and even strangers in an airport.

May God's grace be upon you all.

*Kent Carter is pastor of Progress-Immanuel Presbyterian Church in Harrisburg, Penn. Carter — who grew up in Mediapolis, Iowa, a community of about 1,600 near the city of Oakville, Iowa — participated in two mission trips to help with flood relief and recovery efforts through the Presbytery of Carlisle's' mission Lend A Hand.*

Lend A Hand, founded in 1989 following Hurricane Hugo in South Carolina, worked closely with PDA and the Presbytery of East Iowa in the flood response. Lend A Hand was recently honored in Des Moines with a 2009 Iowa Governor's Group Disaster Volunteer Award.

# Christian Parenting 101

A new church school class designed to assist parents in nurturing children of all ages will begin on **Sunday, January 10, 2010, at 9:00 a.m.** This first class, titled Christian Parenting 101 - The Basics of Becoming a Proactive Parent, will use scripture, class participation and a DVD-series to share information and encourage discussion among the class members.



This first class will run for four weeks. Each week we will focus on the following: Navigating Through Troubled Waters, Developing a Parenting Plan, Managing the "Balancing Act", and keeping Your Family Strong. After this class, participants will select the next study of their choosing. Church school and nursery care will be available for children of all ages.

Join us at 9:00 a.m. on **Sunday, January 10, 2010**, for this exciting new class. If you have any questions or comments, please direct them to Pastor Kent.

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