

COVENANT CHRISTIAN CHURCH  
(Disciples of Christ)  
2700 72nd Street  
Urbandale, IA 50322

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
Des Moines, Iowa  
Permit 1586

ADDRESS SERVICE  
REQUESTED

#### Financial Notes

Oct. 17, 2010  
Total Deposit \$2,201.99  
Oct. 24, 2010  
Total Deposit \$927.00  
Oct. 31, 2010  
Total Deposit \$12,228.00  
Nov. 7, 2010  
Total Deposit \$5,280.00

#### How to Reach Us

Church Phone 515-276-3781  
FAX 515-253-0174  
pwitmer@covenant-christian.org  
blundy@covenant-christian.org  
church@covenant-christian.org  
www.covenant-christian.org

[www.uppermidwestcc.org](http://www.uppermidwestcc.org)  
Christian Church in the Upper Midwest  
[www.disciples.org](http://www.disciples.org)

#### Visitors

Chris, Sam & Lillie McCurdy  
Sara Sinclair  
Alex Greazel  
Adam Reinor  
Steve Melby  
Steve & Sharon Seivert  
Gary Ranquist

#### Attendance

Sunday, Oct. 24 Worship 67  
Sunday, Oct. 31 Worship 70  
Sunday, Nov. 7 Worship 50  
Sunday, Nov. 14 Worship 67

The next newsletter will be mailed on

Wednesday, December 15.  
Articles to be submitted by  
Monday, December 13.

# the COMPASS

"Stand at the crossroads, and look, and ask for the ancient paths." Jeremiah 6:16

## Partners in Prayer Advent 2010

Volume 2 Issue 11  
November 17, 2010

Well, it's hard to believe, but the new year is already upon us. The church's new year that is. The year begins with Advent and the preparation for the coming of Christ into the world. The rest of the year follows naturally with the life and ministry of Jesus. Advent begins a journey that takes us from cradle to grave, manger to tomb. How to prepare for such a journey?

We don't set resolutions for ourselves, but we can open ourselves up to the presence and action of God. In a word: *Prayer*. I invite you to join as partners in prayer this year as we journey into an exciting time in our church. Here are three basic ways to enter into a partnership of prayer as we begin the year together:

**Advent Booklets** Make use of this year's Advent devotional booklet, "Partners in Prayer" written by Disciples pastor and friend of Covenant, Bonnie Carenen. Make time each day for personal prayer and devotion.

**Christmas Services** Plan to participate in the many Advent/Christmas services offered at Covenant, including the Children's program on December 22 and the Christmas Eve service on December 24.

**40 Days of Prayer** Plan to join us at the first of the year as we partner with members and leaders of College Avenue Christian Church for an adventure of 40 days of prayer. We intend this to be a time of thoughtful prayer as we discern the future of our churches working together in whatever ways might be fruitful and faithful.

Advent Blessings to you all. Your partner in prayer, Paul Witmer

covenant  
christian  
church



2700 72nd  
street  
urbandale, iowa  
50322

church phone  
276-3781  
[www.covenant-christian.org](http://www.covenant-christian.org)

...journey in.

### Hanging of the Greens

Please join us on **Sunday, November 28**, to help decorate the tree and sanctuary for the Christmas season. A light soup lunch will be provided immediately following worship, with decorating to follow!

...journey up.



### Partners in Prayer Advent 2010

Advent devotional booklets are available for your daily reading during Advent, which begins Sunday, November 28. Published by Chalice Press and written by Disciples pastor Bonnie Carenen, "Partners in Prayer" will surely help you prepare room for Christ this season. Pick yours up at church.

### SPLASH CHRISTMAS

#### PROGRAM

#### WEDNESDAY,

DECEMBER 22, 6:00 p.m.



All are invited to join us for the Christmas Program presented by the kids of SPLASH, our Wednesday evening education program for kids of all ages. We will celebrate the season with music, readings and pageantry. Come celebrate the season with the ones who make it so special for all of us! Join us downstairs afterwards for food and fellowship.



### Christmas Eve Worship Candlelight and Communion 6:00 p.m.

Please join us for Christmas Eve worship on Friday, **December 24 at 6:00 p.m.** Our Advent season of preparation reaches it's beautiful climax in this candlelit service of music, communion and scripture. Don't miss this very special time to gather with family and friends in joyful Christmas celebration.



### December

#### BIRTHDAYS

Jane Shane	12/2	Sandi Filean	12/3
Don Benson	12/5	Paul Witmer	12/7
Brad Cook	12/9	Breanna Young	12/13
Marsha Ratashak	12/16	Rhonda Roach	12/17
Chris Cook	12/21	Carolyn Ratashak	12/22
Tim Bloomquist	12/23	Ruth Hollings	12/25
Chris McAtee	12/28	Martha Smith	12/31

#### ANNIVERSARIES

Kim & Becky Sienkiewicz 12/20

### IN OUR PRAYERS

Jayde Hildebrand  
Paul Ratashak  
Don Benson  
Newell Hart

### Notes and News

- **LAG** (Looking Around for God) will gather on **Thursday, December 2**, at 7:00 p.m. at El Rodeo for food, fellowship and conversation.
- Thank you, Covenant friends, for your birthday cards and good wishes. - **Helen Crew**

### Thank You

To all of the wonderful people who helped with Mary's Luncheon. Thank you for all you did to help with the lunch. We appreciated everything and feel blessed that Mary was a member of such a great church. She was a special lady and will be missed. Your thoughts and prayers were appreciated.

Thanks! The Family of Mary Rogers

### A BIG THANK YOU!

The Worship Committee would like to thank everyone who participated in the banner making project this summer. Thank you to everyone who donated fabric, thread, time sewing machines, expertise and energy to help create 5 new banners for the sanctuary and narthex. We look forward to displaying them in the weeks and months ahead.

...journey out.

### Worship at Ramsey Home Sunday, December 12, 3:00 p.m.

Please join us in taking worship and communion to the residents and families of Ramsey Home on **Sunday, December 12, 3:00 p.m.** Hopefully we'll have enough carolers that we could wander the halls with Christmas Carols to spread Christmas cheer and Good News to those who need it most!

### DMARC Food Pantry Update

January thru September 2010 Covenant Christian has donated \$5,274.31 cash for food purchases and 86 grocery items to the pantry. Thank you Covenant!

### CFUM Dinner

Friday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> is the next date we prepare dinner for the homeless and low income families who attend Children & Family Urban Ministries (CFUM) Supper Club. Six volunteers are needed to prepare casseroles and six are needed to serve the meal at 4:30 p.m. on the 3<sup>rd</sup>. For details, contact Donna Rusk, 277-7574, email [h.rusk@mchsi.com](mailto:h.rusk@mchsi.com).

### Interfaith Hospitality Network

Covenant will be helping Urbandale United Church of Christ host three homeless families at UCC the week of January 2 - 9, 2011. Volunteers are needed to help convert Sunday school classrooms into family bedrooms, prepare and serve meals, drive the IHN van, and stay as overnight hosts during that week. For details contact Donna Rusk, 277-7574, email [h.rusk@mchsi.com](mailto:h.rusk@mchsi.com).

**Need transportation for worship or other church activities? Please call the church office at 276-3781.**