

CHAPEL CHAT

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Past President's Notes

By Peggy Olson

First, I would like to commend our staff on a wonderful Christmas Celebration from the flowers to the music to the Blue Christmas, Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services. Those who were not here missed a week of both beautiful and moving celebrations.

Then I wish to thank the board, staff and congregation of the Chapel for all the support I received over the past two years. I could not have accomplished any of what I did without you. If I tried to thank each of you personally, it would fill up the *Chat*, so that being said, know we are ending the year 2011 on a positive note with all staff, volunteers, members and friends working toward a common goal.

The 2012 Budget was approved at the Annual Meeting, as were new Board Members Connie Zellar, Cindy Holland and Michele Larking. Brenda Massimo was appointed to complete Shirley

Chapel Happenings

By Dora Lancaster

The Chapel was beautiful in December, with lovely seasonal decorations. The Choir gave exceptional performances. Don and Fran led us in meaningful worship services.

I want to say thank you to all of the members and friends who helped make this a memorable season of joy. My problem is that I fear I will forget someone, so if I slip up and do not name you or what you did, please forgive me.

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Percival's term. (Good Luck Shirley, and Alice too!) Afterwards, at the Board Meeting, the following officers were elected: Pat Weber, President; John Shaughnessy, V-P; Don Truesdell, Treasurer; Connie Zellar, Asst. Treasurer, Marilynn Hoffman, Asst. Secty; Dave Carr, Building & Grounds; Cindy Holland, Benevolence; and Michele, Larking, Christian Education, a new position about which you will hear more. Bob Tourt will continue as Cemetery Chair and I agreed to stay on as Chair of the Building Committee. You have a wonderful group leading you into an exciting New Year.

Finally, a special 'thank you' to my V-P Pat Weber for her support personally and with the Board in 2011. You couldn't ask for a better President...she will do a wonderful job for you!

Thank you to Don and Fran; to Edward Lee, Betty Dennis, and the Chapel Choir; to Andy Lowe and his Sound Committee; to all who served as readers, ushers, and greeters; to volunteers who decorated the Chapel inside and out; to Marilyn Holzerland for ordering and watering the poinsettias; to all who ordered poinsettias or flowers for the Chapel; to Jan Moss and Marilyn Holzerland for the bulletins for Sunday and extra worship services.

Thank you also to all the people who bought, wrapped, and transported gifts to give many local

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From “The Rev”

By Don Welch

The Chapel in the Pines is unique in that it requires no allegiance to a particular dogma or creed in order to become a member. The only requirement for membership is a statement that you will support the Chapel with your presence, gifts, and service. There is no requirement that a member will tithe (*10% of one's income*) or give a certain amount of financial support. Instead, members are asked to estimate the amount they intend to give during the year, and pledge that amount so that the Board of Directors know what programs and personnel can be supported. When circumstances dictate, a member can change or withdraw the pledge simply by notifying the treasurer.

For thirty-five years the chapel has existed and grown because of an unwritten covenant that each member will do his or her part, according to their means. Over the past five years, I have watched members move to retirement communities and, with sadness, have presided over far too many memorial services. However, new members have arrived and taken their place, breathing new energy and ideas into the community, and the construction of the new addition now in progress is evidence of that unwritten covenant.

The Chapel is expanding its facilities in order to better serve its membership and the total community. Our vision is to serve families and people of all age with an enlightened and progressive ministry of worship, fellowship and Christian education. In the next few years we will need to move from a part-time professional staff of retirees to at least one full-time minister. Of course, we must begin to increase our support and our membership to accomplish all of this.

In the years I have left as your minister, I pledge to

work faithfully and give generously to make this happen. Can I count on each of you to do your part?

“The Chapel in the Pines is unique...”

New President's Notes

By Pat Weber

Happy New Year! 2012 will be an exciting year for the Chapel in the Pines. As President, I look forward to serving the Chapel as we begin a year of membership growth and building expansion.

Just think! We will soon be able to walk from the Chapel to the Fellowship Hall for coffee and tea, instead of traveling to the North Clubhouse. We will have classrooms, a conference room, and an elevator for transport from the lower parking lot to the Chapel for worship services.

One of the changes this year is the publishing of our *Chapel Chat* via our website. Watch the website for our monthly calendar which will list events that are coming up.

As we share this New Year, please feel free to contact me at weberconsult@nc.rr.com or by phone at 673-1457.

Benevolence Buzz

By Alice Shaughnessy

The Chapel Benevolence donated \$22,300 in 2012, providing support for eleven local organizations and one missionary.

The Empty Stocking was a success again this year. Many thanks to Joan Renner for all her work. Again it is a community project with donations from both business and community members, and shopping done by many Chapel members.

Christmas Fund donations totaled	\$6,835
Empty Stocking reimbursed purchases	(3,512)
Food Vouchers Thanksgiving & Christmas	(3,886)
Food Voucher to be sent at Easter	(1,943)
Total Empty Stocking Expenses	(\$9,341)

The Benevolence Committee sent \$200 to Friend to Friend for Christmas gifts for those who need their



"The Empty Stocking was a success again this year."

services. \$260 was sent to Social Services to help purchase gifts for 13 teens in the foster care program. We sent \$150 to the Moore Literacy Council for software to help with tutoring and \$150 to the Sandhills Children Center for materials for a learning center. Each month a cake is taken to Sandhills Memory Care to celebrate residents' birthdays. We also sent \$150 to the Memorial Fund for Marisol Delgado who was killed in an auto accident, leaving a husband and three children.

Finally, Benevolence is losing valuable members as they have or are moving. We will miss them. If you are interested in serving on the committee, please contact Cindy Holland at 673-2483.

Treasurer's Talk

By Don Truesdell

Your Chapel Board thanks you for your financial and spiritual support. At the end of Fiscal Year 2011, our income again exceeded our expenses and since October 2010, 67% of Building Fund Pledges have been paid.

Over the coming year, we will continue to do our best to scrutinize every expense and hope you will continue to support us with, as "The Rev" says, your "presence, gifts and service."

Your 2011 tax letter, along with a letter from your new President will be mailed out no later than Wednesday, January 18, 2012.

Membership Murmur

By John Shaughnessy

Unfortunately, the "Dinner's for 6" had "Sunday at the Winery" had inadequate responses so the committee elected to table them at the present time.

The Membership Committee has decided it is time for a new Directory, as the last one was done in 2007. JoAn Moses is in charge of this project, and plans to have pictures taken after the construction is completed.

Your Membership Committee is in need of volunteers with good ideas. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact me at 673-9193.

Building Development

By Peggy Olson

Not much need be said as you can see real progress is being made. The weather has cooperated, allowing the framers to work quickly. Now please pray for that continued good weather!

We have been blessed with our Contractor, Bill Seldomridge. His patience, perseverance, knowledge, and mostly, his sense of humor have kept this project going through some big 'road heaves'. However, Bill has asked, please, no matter how tempting, do not enter the building in an effort to look around! The workers are familiar with any unsafe areas; you would not be. Broken bones tripping or falling would not start the New Year out in the fashion you wish. So please, honor Bill's request!

If you have any questions, please call me (673-3214) or Dewitt (673-1742). He has been staying involved in decision making since returning home, and still acts as my 'brain'! Finally "*Be Careful and Be Safe*" around any construction materials.

Chapel Happenings from page 1

families a Merry Christmas; to all who contributed to the Community Christmas Fund and the Hunger Box; to Alice Shaughnessy and Joan Renner who organized the Empty Stocking Fund; to Tinkie Petterson and her Wedding Committee for helping make three brides very happy on their December Weddings; to all volunteers who helped 'un-decorate' in January. And finally, thank you to Bob and Joan Tourt who know just where everything is stored until it's needed next year!

Not just for December, but the whole year through, thank you to everyone who serves our Chapel in any capacity. You are a Blessing!

Outreach & Visitation: Highlights 2011

By Fran Stark

72 people currently volunteer through the Outreach Ministry of the Chapel. These volunteers come from within our chapel family and the community. Their wonderful outreach allows many residents to remain in their homes.

The Annual Outreach Valentine Party February 14th, was a great success. The 80 attendees were entertained by Mary Lou Bernett's tap dancing women and New Horizons in the Pines Band. Watch for information about this year's party.

Sandhills Memory Care opened earlier in the year. I visit the 28 residents with Parkinson's and Dementia weekly. Outreach provides them with a monthly birthday cake, quilts made by the Sandhills quilters, an exercise bike and a keyboard.

The Alzheimer's Caregivers Support Group of 12 to 18 caregivers continues to meet monthly. Attendance is continuing to grow. Two caregivers are now serving on the new First Health Patient, Family Advisory Panel, with an opportunity to assist the hospital better understand the difficulties having a loved one with dementia in the hospital. The group is excited to be able to contribute to making a difference in community hospital care.

I continue to make many home, hospital, and Nursing Home visits to those who are ill, shut-in, or in crisis. I also have had a very good response in 2011 working with out of state family members. Many share how much they appreciate having someone here to help them through difficult times.

My goals for 2012 are to continue all of the above tasks, and to provide educational presentations on health care issues and planning for the future, to help us prepare for a crisis before it happens.

Calendar of Events

January

February

March

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We're on the Web!

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