



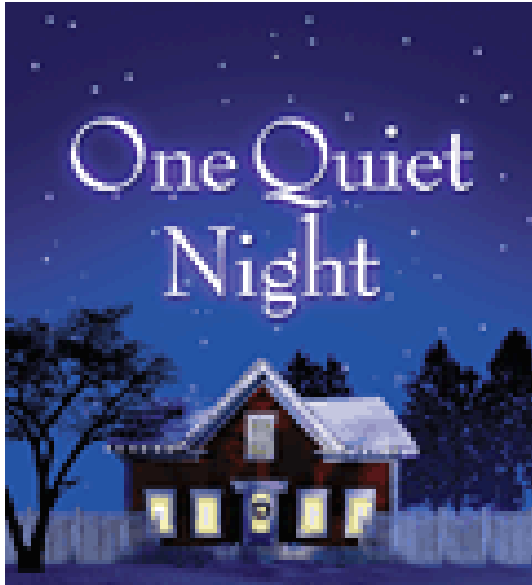
# Pleasant Hill News

Volume IV

DECEMBER 2011

Number 12

## A Dramatic Musical for Christmas



**Arrangers: Heidi Petak,  
Richard Kingsmore, Tony  
Wood**

Christmas. Stress. They seem to go hand in hand. Why is it that the time of "Peace on Earth" is anything but peaceful? In this "all-too-close-to-home" dramatic musical created by Tony Wood and Heidi Petak, a harried mom, Kelly, frantically pushes through the rush of the Christmas season until an unexpected accident forces her

to stop dead in her tracks. Left at home alone while her family goes to church, Kelly discovers that the important thing at Christmas is not what gets her attention, but Who. Filled with delightful new songs and familiar carols, arranged by Richard Kingsmore, the pivotal truth of this real-life dramatic musical will impact the hearts of viewers as they see Kelly in themselves. Told with poignancy and humor, this 50-minute musical will entertain and will inspire choir and congregation alike to seek the Prince of Peace just as Kelly did - **One Quiet Night**.

**Sunday Morning, December 18 @ 10:30 AM**

**(No Sunday School in lieu of our Christmas Musical)**



**Christmas Leisure Group  
Dinner  
December 1**

Our Senior Leisure Group will be climaxing the year with a Christmas Dinner at the Church.

TIME - 11:00 AM

**Christmas Open House  
December 18**

Kasey & Missy Kuyper and boys, our parsonage family, invite you to an open house as we celebrate this Christmas season together. Come anytime from 6:00 to 8:00 PM

**Christmas Candlelight  
Service  
December 24**

Our Christmas Eve Candlelight Service is always a wonderful time of inspiration that sets the tone for a merry Christmas. It's a time when the family can pause from the business of the season to focus on the deeper meaning of the season. TIME - 6:00 PM

## CHRISTMAS SERMON SERIES



**THEME - "In the Dark Street Shineth"**

- November 27 - An Everlasting Light (John 1)
- December 4 - Hope (Isaiah 9)
- December 11 - Do Not Be Afraid (Luke 1)
- December 18 - One Quiet Night (Cantata)
- December 25 - Christmas Family Worship

***Experiencing The Hope of Christmas***

[www.pleasanthillchristianchurch.com](http://www.pleasanthillchristianchurch.com)

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***"A pleasant place to worship"***

# News & Notes

**LEISURE GROUP** - In December, we plan to pick back up on Thursday, December 1, for our annual Christmas Dinner. Contact Verne or Ellie Girard for further information.

**WOMEN'S MINISTRY OUTING** - Will meet Monday, December 12, at 7 PM. All women of the church are invited. See bulletin for further details.

**MONTHLY BOARD MEETING** - December 11, immediately following the Sunday Morning Worship hour. Please keep your board members in prayer.

**CONGREGATIONAL ELECTION RESULTS** - Jonathan Faix, Chad Lanier, Brad McNatt, and Jerry Smith were approved as Deacons. Leo Beller, Jim Faix, and Laurence Parker were approved as Elders.

**NEW PHOTO DIRECTORY** - We are in the final stages of finishing the details for our new photo directory and should have them in hand shortly after the first of the year.

## Welcome New Members

We were delighted to have the following folk to place their membership with us: Gene Decker, Claudia Childress and Betty Sergeant. We were thrilled to witness the recent baptism of Bob Turner into our Lord Jesus Christ. May God continue to bless as we serve our Risen Savior.

# Wednesday Night Fellowship

If you plan on being a regular attender of our Wednesday Night Dinners please let us know how many are in your family. This will help us to be good stewards and have enough food for everyone.

## ADULT BIBLE STUDY CLASSES

- **Women's Study** - "Life Lesson from Women in The Bible" taught by Ellie Girard.
- **Prayer** - "Our Attitudes and God's Answers" taught by Brad McNatt.
- **I Corinthians** - Paul's Letter to the Church at Corinth taught by Kasey Kuyper.

*New Classes start January 11*



## Christmas Offering

**Sunday, December 18, is our opportunity to share once again in an additional "Parking Cone Offering" to pay off the debt for our "Making Room For More" project.**



## Leisure Group

Our Christmas dinner in the fellowship hall is being moved back one day, to Thursday, December 1st, as several of our regulars could not come on Friday. Verne and I will supply the meat and drinks, and we're asking everyone to bring a dish to share. If you know someone you think would enjoy this fellowship, please ask them to come, and we'll see you on December 1st.

The "Apple Run" as we affectionately call it, was a tremendous success! Many were in attendance, as usual; however, when we arrived at Mercier's in Blue Ridge, there were already two large buses in the parking lot besides the many other vehicles. Needless to say, we could hardly walk around inside, so we quickly selected our apple purchases, and headed elsewhere for lunch. Martha and Willy led us to a wonderful buffet style restaurant where we ate, then leisurely sat around and talked, as no one seemed in a hurry to leave. It was a great time!



**Sharon C. Smith**  
Worship Leader

## "Peace on Earth"

Ever ask, why is it that the time of "Peace on Earth" is anything but peaceful? Christmas and stress—they seem to go hand in hand. So this year, set aside time on December, 18th at 10:30 am to enjoy the PHCC Choir and the Children's Choir present "One Quiet Night"-This dramatic Christmas musical is filled with delightful new songs and familiar carols. Set aside time to discover that the important thing at Christmas is not in what gets your attention, but WHO, gets your attention. You will be inspired, entertained and encouraged as you focus on the reason for the season.



**Merry Christmas!**  
*Sharon C.*



## Am I doing my best for the Church?

- In being a loving caring person?
- In inviting others to worship with me? (Our attendance goal is 140)
- In doing my part in good stewardship? (Weekly budget needs \$2716)
- In my studying of God's Word?



## OUR VISION STATEMENT

- **United in Christ to seek the lost**
- **Mature the Christian**
- **Serve the community**

# Women's Ministry

By Ellie Girard



## “OK, We Give UP!”

You probably already realize this, but there are a lot of people in our society who are concerned about Christmas becoming a “religious holiday.” They are worried that the church will somehow take over the Christmas holiday, thus ruining it for them. They constantly fuss about keeping their schools and everything else safe from Christianity. They want the holiday...but they want it without any religious overtones.

Does the name Sapphira from the Bible ring a bell? I must admit I couldn't place who she was until I read the lesson. This was the last lesson we did in the Wednesday night Women's Bible Study. If you are curious, read Acts 5:1-10. The lesson spends a lot of time discussing the Holy Spirit, the third person of the Trinity, and how he convicts us of sin (John 16:8), guides us into truth (John 16:13), empowers us for service (Acts 1:8), directs us (Romans 8:4, and helps us pray (Romans 8:26). The author also states that the Holy Spirit forms a partnership with the believer that last through eternity. Let that sink in! It seems as though we don't talk about the Holy Spirit much, but if we allow him to convict us, we can flee from sin. Sapphira and her husband plotted to withhold money, thinking no one knew what they were up to, but God knew! In the midst of doing something for the Lord, they allowed their actions to become misguided, resulting in death.

Our next group of lessons focus on mothers in the Bible. If you aren't attending a Wednesday night class, please come and join us. Our next one will be December 7th. We are out of books, so if you want us to get one, just let me know. But you can still join in without the book as well. We have a nice group that can get some good discussions going.

## So, What Shall We Do?

I think we should give up. We'll just give them what they want. Let's make a deal with those who are so worried about any religious meaning creeping into their Christmas activities. Here's the deal: I think we should give them all the non-Christian stuff of Christmas, and I think we should keep for ourselves all the Christian stuff of Christmas. If we did that, here's how I think it would all shake out....

### FIRST, WHAT THEY GET:

1. They can keep **the date**, (Actually there is considerable doubt that Jesus was really born on December 25th , anyway)
2. They can keep the **Christmas trees**. They're fun, but they aren't found in the Biblical Christmas story anywhere, so I guess they get them.
3. They get the **jolly old fat man** in the red suit. But we get his name, which is Saint Nicholas, a churchman who loved to give gifts to the needy.
4. They get the **fruit cake**. But I'm not sure that this is much of a loss to Christians. I read somewhere that there are really only 20 fruitcakes in the world and people just keep sending them around to one another year after year.

### NOW, WHAT WE GET:

1. We get to keep the name “**Christmas**” for ourselves, for obvious reasons. It has the word “Christ” right in it. Besides, they've gone to calling it “Giving and Receiving Day” anyway. In the schools up north, they are so scared of “religious overtones” that they no longer have Christmas parties—now they have “Winter Solstice” parties—whatever that is.
2. We get the **gift giving**. After all, the basis of Christmas is God's gift of His Son to us. Then there were the Magi who gave their gifts to the Infant Child.
3. **The wise men, the camels, the inn... in fact, the whole manger scene** all get dropped by the secular holiday crowd, too. They're ours.
4. We get “**Peace on earth, good will to men.**”

So, let the unbeliever celebrate Christmas—(oops, I mean “Giving and Receiving day”) if they wish. But, when you think about it...if they remove the Christian stuff of Christmas, there isn't much left to celebrate. After all, without Christ, what's left for them?

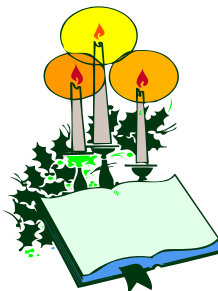
**A date...a tree...a fat man (who doesn't even have a name)... and a fruitcake, all accompanied by “Jingle bells.”**

In fact, there's not much to celebrate on any day of the year without Jesus! May God bless us all as we celebrate Christ this Christmas.

—By Doug Dykstra, Minister Mid-Lakes Christian Church, Florida

## Women's Ministry Officers

President—June Turner  
Vice President—Diane Babb  
Secretary—Harriet Stroh  
Treasurer—Teri Smith  
Reporter —Ellie Girard  
Devotions—Shirley Parker



## Adult Sunday School

Sunday morning affords an opportunity for fellowship beginning at 9:00 with a continental breakfast followed by a small group study of the Scriptures at 9:30 every Sunday morning.

**Join us for the Holidays**



## The Shepherd's Corner

By Kasey Kuyper, Senior Minister

As we look back over the past year we recognize that 2011 has been a year of mixed blessings and hardships. In the past year we have seen many families lose loved ones, struggle with finances and jobs, and face medical challenges. Each of these areas have given us an opportunity to meet needs and encourage one another. At the same time we have seen some great blessing in 10 baptisms and 7 transfers of membership! What a great reason to rejoice.

As we look ahead to 2012 we want to focus on our vision statement:

***“United In Christ, Seeking The Lost, Maturing The Christian, Serving The Community.”***

**United In Christ** – Right now we are looking for new ways to come together as the body of Christ. We know that Christ unites us, and we are better together. In order to help us care and support one another, the Elders are putting together a shepherding program. This program will help us make sure that we are providing support for everyone at PHCC. We want to make sure that no one falls through the cracks, when needs arise in their life.

**Seeking The Lost** – Seeking implies action. It is very easy for us to place the responsibility upon those who need to know Christ, to find us, instead of us searching for them. In order to help us seek the lost together, plans are being made to establish a new street team ministry which will focus on us being part of our community. This ministry is blessed to have a new leader (Charlie Ross) and a team will be built in the first part of the year. We look forward to being where our community is.

**Maturing The Christian** – The Christian Life should be a life of growth. In 2011 we are still working to improve the opportunities the we offer to help you grow in your relationship with Christ. Small groups will return; a new Sunday School format is on the way; and the *One Challenge* will be launched on 1/1/12. We will do our best to offer you the best opportunities, but everyone must decide what to do with those opportunities.

**Serving The Community** – Right now we are looking into some community projects that we can be part of in 2012. Our hope is that we can serve those around us together. We want to establish a team that is alert and aware of what opportunities are out there that we can be part of, and energize the church to serve together.

***2012 will be a year full of growth and opportunities for PHCC, and I hope that you will be part of it! — Kasey***

# Beelines

by **Glory Bee**



Charles Dickens said “I will hold Christmas in my heart, and try to keep it all year through.” ... Well, PHCC family, Christmas is upon us and as we all “buzz” around, don’t let pressures, problems, frustrations, and other people take away the Christ of Christmas who was born die to give us the gift of God’s love, forgiveness of our sins and eternal life. Slow down, rejoice, praise the Lord, and re-think “gift giving”- Give thanks and praise the Lord for his gift to us and for all He has done. Follow Daniel’s example of praise found in Daniel 2:22-28: “Blessed be the name of God forever and ever, for wisdom and might are His. And He changes the times and the seasons; He removes kings, and rises up kings; He gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to those who have understanding. He reveals deep and secret things, He knows what is in the darkness, and light dwells with Him.”... May the lights of Christmas bring the Light of God the Father, Christ the Son, and the Holy Spirit into your hearts and lives so that we truly focus on “Christmas” all thru the month of December and into 2012.

***May you Bee blessed!***

***...Glory Bee***



### Pleasant Hill News

Pleasant Hill Christian Church  
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E-Mail: [pleasanthilljasper@yahoo.com](mailto:pleasanthilljasper@yahoo.com)

#### REGULAR WEEKLY SERVICES

Sunday School..... 9:30 AM  
Sunday Worship Service..... 10:30 AM  
Wednesday Meal ..... 6:00 PM  
Study & Youth ..... 7:00 PM

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# December 2011

## Monthly Planner



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																										
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content;"> <p><b>REGULAR WEEKLY SERVICES</b></p> <p>Sunday School ..... 9:30 AM</p> <p>Sunday Worship Hour.... 10:30 AM</p> <p>Wednesday Meal ..... 6:00 PM</p> <p>Adult Study &amp; Youth..... 7:00 PM</p> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid blue; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin-top: 10px;"> <p style="text-align: center;">January 12</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td> </tr> <tr> <td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td> </tr> <tr> <td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td> </tr> <tr> <td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td> </tr> </table> </div>				S	M	T	W	T	F	S	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31					<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">1</p> <p>11:00 AM Leisure Group, meet at Church <i>Kevin &amp; Kellie Childers, ANN</i></p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">2</p> <p><i>Amy Schutt, BD</i> <i>Jean Fawley, BD</i></p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">3</p> <p><i>Matthew &amp; Kimberly Longairc, ANN</i></p>
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<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">4</p> <p>11:45 AM 4-6 Grade Parents Meeting  12:00 PM ELDER'S MEETING <i>Sonya Lanier, BD</i></p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">5</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">6</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">7</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">8</p> <p><i>Mandy Tatum, BD</i></p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">9</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">10</p> <p>10:00 AM - 12:00 PM Catata Practice</p>																																										
<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">11</p> <p>12:00 PM Board Meeting <i>David Ray, BD</i> <i>Harriet Stroh, BD</i></p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">12</p> <p>7:00 PM Women's Monthly Meeting</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">13</p> <p><i>Austin Lanier, BD</i></p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">14</p> <p><i>Jim Sarks, BD</i></p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">15</p> <p><i>Lee Busby, BD</i></p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">16</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">17</p> <p>10:00 AM - 12:00 PM Catata Practice <i>Ryan Burch, BD</i> <i>Taylor Dean, BD</i></p>																																										
<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">18</p> <p>10:30 AM Christmas Musical 6:00 PM Christmas Open House "Parking Cone Offering"</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">19</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">20</p> <p><i>Robin Land, BD</i></p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">21</p> <p>6:30 PM Adventure Zone Parents Christmas Party <i>Gary Babb, BD</i> <i>Kenneth &amp; Harriet Stroh, ANN</i> NO BIBLE STUDY</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">22</p> <p><i>Kayla Reppert, BD</i></p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">23</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">24</p> <p>6:00 PM Christmas Eve Candlelight <i>Chris Halpin, BD</i></p>																																										
<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">25</p> <p>10:30 AM Christmas Family Worship <i>Paula Lathem, BD</i></p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">26</p> <p><i>Danny Hunt, BD</i> <i>Jack Byrd, BD</i> <i>Tyler Scott Longaire, BD</i></p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">27</p> <p><i>Kasey &amp; Missy Kuyper, ANN</i></p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">28</p> <p>NO BIBLE STUDY</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">29</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">30</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">31</p> <p><i>Nattalee Payne, BD</i></p>																																										



A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year