



## Pinedale Community Church United Church of Christ February 2010 Newsletter

Whoever you are,  
Wherever you are in life's journey,  
You're welcome here!

### **Pinedale Community Church**

United Church of Christ  
P.O. Box 646, 113 South Maybell  
Pinedale, WY 82941  
(307) 367-2528

### **Our Mission**

"Our doors and ministry are open to all who follow Jesus and have a sincere desire to share God's love with others."

### **Church Schedule**

Sunday Worship ..... 10:30 am  
A nursery is provided during the worship service.

Preschool-Grade 5 Bible classes meet on Wednesdays after school.

For additional information, please visit these links:

### **Our Web Site**

<http://www.pinedalecommunitychurch.org>

### **Calendar of Events**

<http://www.google.com/calendar/embed?src=yhwphsa%40hotmail.com>

## **UCC IS CARING AND GIVING TO HAITI**

As emergency relief personnel and crucial supplies continue to pour into Haiti, United Church of Christ members and congregations are maintaining their overwhelming support of the earthquake-ravaged nation, according to UCC leaders. As of Feb. 2, more than \$650,000 had been raised by the UCC Haiti Earthquake Relief Fund, according to Susan M. Sanders, UCC's minister for global sharing of resources.

"The total of \$652,943 includes \$375,942 that has been raised through online contributions," says Sanders. The three-week total is more than two and a half times the \$250,603 raised during the first six days following the Jan. 12 disaster.

Ground efforts in addressing emergency needs are also adding up. The UCC is supporting Church World Service in providing basic supplies for quake survivors. Among supplies being provided at five sites by the CWS and the Action by Churches Together (ACT) Alliance effort are CWS Kits and Blankets, medical supplies, food and water.

The UCC is also supporting the provision of 60 medicine boxes to address desperate medical needs in Port-au-Prince. Each IMA World Health medicine box contains essential medicines and medical supplies to treat the routine ailments of about 1,000 adults and children for up to two months.

UCC/CWS-supported efforts as part of the ACT Alliance also include construction of temporary water systems, and provision of water purification materials, tents and food packages. Long-term CWS work will focus on food security in rural areas and expanding work with people with disabilities in Port-au-Prince.

In addition, Global Ministries of the UCC/Disciples of Christ is supporting longtime partner CONASPEH in relief efforts among member congregations. Planning is underway to re-establish outreach and social services, and to rebuild churches. It is anticipated the UCC will be responding to the disaster for the next five to eight years.

Meanwhile, countless creative initiatives from UCC entities have taken shape. Among them: Retirement Housing Foundation (RHF) in California has issued a \$50,000 match grant to encourage employees to donate; an employee campaign at Advocate Health Care in Chicago is sharing proceeds with both the UCC and Evangelical Lutheran Churches of America (ELCA); First United Church of Christ in Hampton, Va., is planning a benefit concert for Haiti on Feb. 21; and the youth group of Mountain Rise UCC in Fairport, N.Y., voted to donate the \$1,720.25 it recently raised through Christmas wreath sales.

Checks payable to United Church of Christ marked for Haiti may be sent to: UCC, Haiti Earthquake Relief Fund; 700 Prospect Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44115-1100. Online gifts are still being accepted at the Haiti Earthquake Relief donation page. All gifts received by the UCC Haiti Earthquake Relief Fund will be used for relief and rehabilitation initiatives. Administrative costs are being covered by UCC members' contributions to Our Churches Wider Mission (OCWM).

# Pastor Ponders

Today I've been thinking about "February Funk" and the beginning of Lent (Ash Wednesday, February 17<sup>th</sup>). Many of us find ourselves depressed this time of year. Maybe it's the unrealistic Valentine's Day hype that often results in unmet expectations. Maybe it's the seemingly unending cold, dark & dreary weather. Added to these maladies, here in Pinedale folks suffer from cabin fever, worsened *this* year by the fact that our usual outlets of sledding, boarding and skiing have been hampered by a lack of significant snowpack. Much of the snow we do have lies dirty and hard. Sometimes it feels like there's no light at the end of this seasonal tunnel. And now here comes Lent: forty days of deprivation and introspection, just when what we really want is Easter's festive celebration! But that's sort of the point isn't it? Without winter's death we would not appreciate the rebirth of spring.



For our emotional well being, first, let's be thankful for the generous amount of sunshine that we are blessed to receive at this location and altitude. Then, let's get enough sleep, eat healthy, exercise, and take some time out to spend time with friends instead of internalizing our stress. (Yes I am trying to take my own advice.)

For our spiritual well being, first, let's thank God for every morning that we are given a new day. Then let's deliberately strengthen our relationship with God. Pick up a daily devotional for these forty days. Spend some quality alone time with God. Start your morning with a hymn. Attend an extra worship service during the week. Choose someone or some cause to invest in with your time, your money, your service, and your prayers. Don't waste the dark night of winter by trying to sleep straight through 'til morning, or Easter won't be any more meaningful to you this year than it has ever been for you in the past.

None of this is anything new, anything you don't know already. So I am praying that this Lent, you will take advantage of the extra opportunities available to deepen your walk with God. I am praying that you'll use this time to intentionally prepare, not just for Holy Week, but for the rest of your life and eternity. If you are still living life as a caterpillar, it's time to spin that cocoon for Lent so that when Easter comes, you can burst forth a new creature. Expecting butterflies... Carol

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## ALL I REALLY NEED TO KNOW I LEARNED FROM NOAH'S ARK

- Plan ahead. It wasn't raining when Noah built the ark.
- Stay fit. When you're 600 years old, someone might ask you to do something REALLY big.
- Don't listen to critics - do what has to be done.
- Build on high ground.
- For safety's sake, travel in pairs.
- Two heads are better than one.
- Speed isn't always an advantage. The cheetahs were on board, but so were the snails.
- If you can't fight or flee - float!
- Take care of your animals as if they were the last ones on earth.
- Don't forget that we're all in the same boat.
- When the doo-doo gets really deep, don't sit there and complain: shovel!
- Stay below deck during the storm.
- Remember that the ark was built by amateurs and the Titanic was built by professionals.
- If you have to start over, have a friend by your side.
- Remember that the woodpeckers INSIDE are often a bigger threat than the storm OUTSIDE.
- No matter how bleak it looks, there's always a rainbow on the other side.



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We thank LuAnne Freeman for the platform rocker we now have in the nursery. The rocker which was in the nursery has been moved to the back of the sanctuary, for parents' convenience during worship. Thanks, LuAnne, for hearing of a need and answering it.

## QUILT PATCHES



Note: This is a little corner of the newsletter where I (Brenda) might want to share with you something that has caught my eye recently. I named it "Quilt Patches" because the quilts I remember my mom making were from bits and pieces of different kinds of cloth. That's what this will be: bits and pieces. I hope you may find something of interest to you sometimes.

I get an email ad from Hobby Lobby every week that always includes a quotation the company thinks is timely. I've been thinking about the one I got this past week. It read "We can't all be heroes because somebody has to sit on the curb and clap as they go by", attributed to Will Rogers. I've been thinking about that sentence all week. I find it very much correct - and wrong! We absolutely need heroes who we can "sit on the curb" for. Some of mine include every person who has served a tour of duty in

Afghanistan or Iraq. Others are those who are helping with the horrible circumstances in Haiti. Those who run in the Susan G. Komen Race For The Cure (and those who initiated the race). And so many more it would take the whole newsletter to list them. Okay, one more - Terry Bradshaw, the former quarterback for my all-time favorites the Steelers!

The point is, I imagine that you have a whole list just like I do of people whose parade you would gladly "sit on the curb" for. But, what about yourself? Did you ever think that YOU might be a hero to someone? I never have. I just muddle along through life, hoping that God will catch me when I walk blindly off the next cliff. (He always does, thank goodness!) The other day, my daughter said, "You're my hero, Mom", but I didn't buy it. What? Me, a hero? Nah, I don't do anything special. And, that's the point. The people I mentioned at the beginning of this DID do something special. Something really out of their realm. Something we all notice and appreciate. And, yet, heroism doesn't necessarily have to be visible to the world. Sometimes, it's just someone who struggles through the trials life brings and still gets up in the morning and goes on. While you're thinking of the people in your life, maybe it would be a good idea to tell them you consider them your heroes. Couldn't hurt.

Without doubt, the people who go to Afghanistan or Iraq or Haiti are heroes. Yet, so is the young woman who fought cancer as a child, and still does, without giving up. The man who was ostracized by his family, again as a child, lived through a time of sleeping in an abandoned building, and has built himself a life and a career. The man whose body was crushed and broken in a helicopter crash, who has gone on to work, even while having constant back pain, and build a family. The man who has been broken in spirit so many times, for so many years, yet gets up every morning and goes on, believing that his God is on his side. I know all these people. I consider them all heroes. I bet if we looked into your life, YOU qualify as just such a hero, too. I heard once that the definition of 'courage' is "being afraid and doing it anyway". Even Jesus, at Gethsemane, was afraid and asked God to let Him give this one a miss. Yet, he did "it" anyway. And, so do you, everyday. You get up and face whatever life brings, knowing that God is with you. Yep, that's my kind of hero. Matter of fact, I think I'll add you all to my list.....

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## FROM THE MODERATOR

Grab your calendars! As of now the meeting dates for the church council will be the first Wednesday after the second Sunday. You may thank Jim Huntley for creating such an unusual confluence. The dates are:

2/17 (Ash Wednesday)	9/15
3/17	10/13
4/14	11/17
5/12	12/15
6/16	1/12/2011

July & Aug no meeting

I hope this year to increase involvement of lots more folks in the functioning of the church.

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## TAILGATING AT THE STOP LIGHT

The light turned yellow, just in front of him. He did the right thing, stopping at the crosswalk, even though he could have beaten the red light by accelerating through the intersection. The tailgating woman was furious and honked her horn, screaming in frustration, as she missed her chance to get through the intersection, dropping her cell phone and makeup. As she was still in mid-rant, she heard a tap on her window and looked up into the face of a very serious police officer. The officer ordered her to exit her car with her hands up.

He took her to the police station where she was searched, fingerprinted, photographed, and placed in a holding cell. After a couple of hours, a policeman approached the cell and opened the door. She was escorted back to the booking desk where the arresting officer was waiting with her personal effects.

He said, "I'm very sorry for this mistake. You see, I pulled up behind your car while you were blowing your horn, flipping off the guy in front of you and cussing a blue streak at him. I noticed the 'What Would Jesus Do' bumper sticker, the 'Choose Life' license plate holder, the 'Follow Me to Sunday-School' bumper sticker, and the chrome-plated Christian fish emblem on the trunk, so naturally. . . I assumed you had stolen the car."

## FEBRUARY LECTONARY

<b><u>Ash Wednesday</u></b> February 17, 2010	<u>Joel 2:1-2, 12-17</u> or <u>Isaiah 58:1-12</u>	<u>Psalms 51:1-17</u>	<u>2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10</u>	<u>Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21</u>
<b><u>First Sunday in Lent</u></b> February 21, 2010	<u>Deuteronomy 26:1-11</u>	<u>Psalms 91:1-2, 9-16</u>	<u>Romans 10:8b-13</u>	<u>Luke 4:1-13</u>
<b><u>Second Sunday in Lent</u></b> February 28, 2010	<u>Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18</u>	<u>Psalms 27</u>	<u>Philippians 3:17-4:1</u>	<u>Luke 13:31-35</u> or <u>Luke 9:28-36, (37-43)</u>

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## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

We are pleased to welcome several new members to our congregation. Gene Andrews, Cindy Carlson, Luanne Freeman, Coke and Molly Landers and Linda Williams have all joined with us in fellowship. Also in January, Aubrie Doyle and Abigail Fear both professed their faith in Christ through baptism. When you see one of these folks, greet them and make them feel welcome!

From Carol: We recently added 8 new members to our congregation. One of these blessed souls came to me, stated his/her monthly income and asked if he/she could mail in his/her check for 10% of that income monthly, in case he/she ever missed attending worship some week. I gladly assured him/her that if we all automatically had that response, the budget would be met and gloriously exceeded. We are blessed!

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## CHOIR

Choir practices resume on Sunday morning, February 7th, at 9:30 AM. Like to sing? You're welcome to join and share your talent with others. Questions? Call JJ Huntley (859-8607).

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## PRAYER REQUESTS

Marlyn Cornett (Cheryl Eatinger's dad) - Chemotherapy  
Dave Doyle - Underemployed  
Hawley Doyle (Jack & Virginia's daughter-in-law) - Cancer  
Whitney Huntley - Needs employment  
Rita Huntley - Ongoing  
Stella McKinstry - In the hospital in Salt Lake City  
Kris & Karin Reed (Bruce & Nancy's son and wife) - Need employment  
Jim Weeks (Deb McClellan's brother-in-law) - Chemotherapy  
Candy's parents, JJ's parents

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## WHEN IS YOUR BIRTHDAY?

We'd like to recognize in the newsletter the birthdays, anniversaries and other special occasions occurring each month. If you weren't in church on February 7th, when we passed around the sign-up sheet for your special days, please jot them on a piece of paper (be sure to include your name) and place it in the newsletter basket on the music boxes in the fellowship hall. YOU NEEDN'T INCLUDE THE YEAR.

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## FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS:

02-03 Les Burrough  
02-12 Candy Herda-Scott  
Gene Andrews  
02-23 Amy Greham  
02-25 Cindy Carlson



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## PLEASE HELP US!

If you have an article, an item of interest to you, a coming church event that you'd like published, or a poem, saying, whatever you'd like to have noted in the newsletter, please drop it in the basket that is sitting on one of the music stands in the fellowship hall. It would be helpful if you sign each article, so that, in the event of questions, we may contact you. We love to have your contributions, as our "think tanks" sometimes run pretty dry!

## THE BALANCE SHEET (BUDGET)

- ▲ On the one hand, we ended 2009 in the black.
- ▼ On the other hand, offerings were actually down \$10,000 from the year before.
- ▲ We finished the year OK because the Council cut spending by enough to make up the difference.

For 2010, we just approved a budget that is a little bit larger than last year's. We need everybody's full financial and spiritual support of our ambitious plans if we're going to get everything accomplished.

## LENTEN ACTIVITIES:

February 17 .....Ash Wednesday Service (12:15 PM - 12:45 PM)  
February 17 .....Church Council Meeting (5:00 PM)  
February 23 .....Tuesday Soup Supper and Contemplative Worship  
February 26 - 28 .....Confirmation Retreat  
February 28 .....Music Sunday  
March 2 .....Tuesday Soup Supper and Contemplative Worship  
March 9 .....Tuesday Soup Supper and Contemplative Worship  
March 14 .....One Great Hour of Sharing  
March 16 .....Tuesday Soup Supper and Contemplative Worship  
March 23 .....Tuesday Soup Supper and Contemplative Worship  
March 28 .....Palm Sunday  
March 29 - April 4 .....Holy Week

Would you like to read scripture some Sunday during worship? Please call Maxine Leckie (859-8881) and let her know.

Interested in helping with an idea we have for those children not going to the nursery during Sunday morning worship? Please call Brenda Doyle at 367-3634. We're going to put together "Sunday Sacks" for the kids and we need your help!

## HOW TO MAKE CHURCH BRILLIANT



# The Back Page

## Ministers this month

### February 7

Ushers:Montgomery Families  
Flowers:Sue Briggs  
Nursery:Aubrie Doyle

### February 14

Ushers:Cathy Saxton  
Holden  
Flowers:Les & Barb Burrough  
Nursery:Linda Williams

### February 21

Ushers:  
Flowers:  
Nursery:

### February 28

Ushers:  
Flowers:  
Nursery:

## Contact Information for Rev.

### Carol B. White:

Church Office .....367-2528  
Cellular .....231-5818  
Home .....367-3286  
Email ..... YHWHpsa@hotmail.com

## Office Hours:

Tuesday.....10:00 a.m. - noon  
Wednesday .....1:00pm – 3:00p.m.

## Pastor's Days Off:

Friday & Saturday

## 2010 Church Officers

Moderator ..... Maxine Leckie  
Vice-moderator .....Ken Konicek  
Secretary.....Cheryl Eatinger  
Treasurer .....John Mortensen  
Council Members:  
Cindy Carlson  
Aubrie Doyle  
Jack Doyle  
Jim Huntley  
Debbie McClellan

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