



The Lamplighter



December 2011

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Pastor's Perspective

I will be retiring from active ministry on December 31, 2011. This milestone will mark a total of 38 years of ministry in the Church of Jesus Christ. I have served the Fulton Presbyterian Church for 10 of those years.

Sylvia and I look back over our ministry at Fulton with mixed feelings. We feel a deep sadness when we remember those members of this church who have passed on their home in heaven. We feel joy when we recall those marriages and other celebrations that we have been honored and happy to officiate at. We also feel an excitement and anticipation for what God has in store for the Fulton church.

For ourselves, we also feel excitement and anticipation of a new phase in our marriage and family life. We look forward to our life in retirement.

All in all, however, we have faith that God will continue to lead this church as it seeks to live out the love of Christ in the world. We trust that God will lead you into all truth and make known to what are his incomparable blessings.

For the time being, Sylvia and I will continue to live in Fulton. Soon, however, we will be selling our house and moving to another place. Where we will end up has not yet been made clear to us, but we know that wherever we go, the Lord will go with us.

Because Sylvia and I will continue to live for a time in Fulton, it is necessary that I remind all of you that though I may still be present, I will no longer be your pastor. The Book of Order clearly states that a former pastor is to cease all ministry with his or her former church. So, if you ask me for pastoral services after my retirement, such as worship, weddings, funerals, counseling, etc. I will have to turn you down. It is not because of anything I feel toward you. Them's the rules. Don't take it personally. It is so that whoever comes to lead you, whether they be interim or installed pastor, will have a clean slate to from which to begin to build relationships.

That brings me to my final message to you. Give your full support to whoever is leading you, whether they be interim or installed pastor. He or she will be your spiritual leader and you should respect, honor, and listen to him or her. Your new leader will make mistakes. Forgive. They will try to lead you. Follow. They will try to love you. Love them back. No pastor can fully function without the love of his flock.

Finally, I say to you all what Paul said to the Corinthians:

¹¹Finally, brothers and sisters, farewell. Put things in order, listen to my appeal, agree with one another, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you. ¹²Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the saints greet you.

¹³The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you. (2 *Corinthians 13:11-13*)

Shalom,

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE NOVEMBER SESSION MEETING

- Clerk Craig Faulkner reported on Attendance.
- Pastor Stan gave an update of his activities.
- Ann Camp gave an update for the Calling and Membership committee activities. The committee will serve a luncheon for the children’s Christmas Program practice. They will also take goodies to the shut-ins.
- Evelyn Schaver gave a report of Fellowship activities. Evelyn gave an update of the Annual Turkey Supper. The committee is planning a creamed turkey on biscuit lunch on January 22, 2012 and a bowling party for February 12, 2012.
- Finance Committee update was given by Jim Moore. Jim reported on the monthly income and expenses and how pledging was going. The finance committee recommended and it was approve to allow a fund raiser for replacing the office computers.
- Nominating Report was given by Craig Faulkner. The committee requested and was granted permission to hold a congregational meeting for elections of officers on December 4, 2011..
- Nurture committee report was given by Teresa Ray. The children are beginning to practice for Christmas program and will hold a practice on Saturday December 17, 2011 and the Christmas program will be held December 18 during Worship..
- Outreach committee report was given by Todd Gravert.
- Properties Committee report was given by Jim Balk.
- Webmaster Lisa Colgan gave a monthly report including the number of “hits” the church was getting on its web site.
- Worship Committee update was given by Bill Wilkin.
- Craig Faulkner will be the Elder/Commissioner to the Blackhawk Presbytery Meeting November 8 at Stronghold.

LECTIONARY FOR SUNDAYS AND FESTIVALS SCRIPTURE

December 4 Isaiah 40:1-11 Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13 2 Peter 3:8-15a Mark 1:1-8	December 11 Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11 Psalm 126:1-6 or Luke 1:47-55 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24 John 1:6-8, 19-28	December 18 2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16 Luke 1:47-55 or Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26 Romans 16:25-27 Luke 1:26-38	December 24 Isaiah 9:2-7 Psalm 96:1-13 Titus 2:11-14 Luke 2:1-14 (15-20)	December 25 Isaiah 62:6-12 Psalm 97:1-12 Titus 3:4-7 Luke 2:(1-7) 8-20 Christmas Day: Isaiah 52:7-10 Psalm 98:1-9 Hebrews 1:1-4 (5-12) John 1:1-14
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DECEMBER WORSHIP LEADERS

Ushers

The Richards Family



Greeters

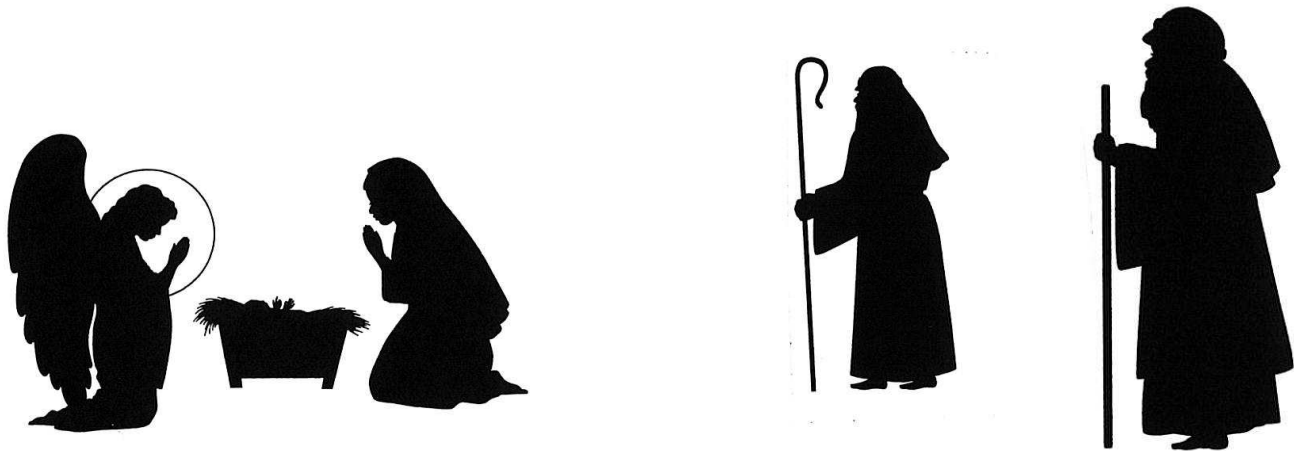
December 4 Jean and Bill Wilkin
 December 11 Jim and Phyllis Stachour
 December 18 Jeff, Jackie and Brandi Pessman
 December 25 Warren and Wilma Beukema

**JAN STUART’S PANTRY CORNER
MONTH OF DECEMBER**

Canned Vegetable Soup
 Canned Tomato Soup
 Canned Cream of Mushroom Soup



Thank You! to everyone for the great job at this years Turkey Supper. This event could never happen without our many volunteers, most of which donated numerous items for the dinner. Our many workers used their hands and talents over a three day period to prepare a beautiful dining room and a truly wonderful meal. And our kitchen, salad, dessert, and dining room servers worked diligently to offer an outstanding dining experience for all attending. From the time our guests were greeted at the front door to when they left I think they had a very welcoming experience. Profits from this event were \$2604.59. As a congregation we can all feel good about the success of this event. From the entire Fellowship Committee.....**Thank you to all for a job well done!**



Our Church will be receiving the Christmas Joy Offering on December 18, 2011

Christmas Joy Offering

Fifty percent of undesignated receipts to the Christmas Joy Offering are distributed to the Board of Pensions for assistance programs that provide support to retired and active church workers and their spouses and families. The other fifty percent supports Presbyterian-related racial ethnic schools and colleges through the Racial Ethnic and Women's Ministries of the General Assembly Mission Council.

Racial Ethnic Schools and Colleges Donate

[Barber-Scotia College, North Carolina](#)

The education of young women and men who represent the Racial Ethnic Constituencies of the PC (USA) is of very high priority. Developing and training leaders from within these constituencies enriches the larger community for service and witness. Your contributions in support of these important institutions will allow the visions of these young women and men to become realities.

[Cook College & Theological School, Arizona](#)

Cook College for Christian leadership offers programs to meet the needs of adult Native Americans to serve their churches and communities. Through our winter term offerings and on/off campus workshops, we educate our students to become leaders.

[Menaul School, Campus Religious Life](#)

A vital part of every student's life at Menaul School is the campus religious life program. Your gift will support the three primary components that are: Religious Studies, Chapel Services and the Chaplain's Program. Each year, students develop a basic understanding of and appreciation for the religious and spiritual dimension of life through classes such as Life and Times of Christ, Comparative World Religions and Service and Community. Chapel programs, led by our ordained Presbyterian chaplain and student assistants, help all students explore and share their faith. Funds requested will provide class and worship resources, as well as ..

[Menaul School, General Support](#)

Menaul School prepares students, grades 6-12, for college and lives of service to their communities. High-quality instruction and a Reformed Christian environment develop in students the critical thinking

(Continued on page 4)

skills and moral values important in becoming responsible, ethical adults. Menaul serves predominantly racial ethnic students that reflect the historical cultures of New Mexico. More than 95 percent of Menaul's graduates go on to college.

[Menaul School, Native American & Hispanic Financial Fund](#)

Your gifts will assist Native American and Hispanic students who otherwise would not be able to attend a college preparatory school that provides the personal attention of caring teachers. Scholarships are based on need.

[Presbyterian Pan American School, Texas](#)

Presbyterian Pan American School is a college preparatory school, grounded in the joy and discipline of Christian love, serving young people from the Americas and beyond. Our mission is to prepare these young people for lives of Christian leadership. Your financial support can change these young lives by giving them opportunities for a brighter future.

[President's Scholarships For Needy Presbyterian Students, Stillman College](#)

These funds will be used to assist students who have an unmet financial need and have designated themselves as Christian students.

[Scholarships For Native American Theological Students](#)

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[Sheldon Jackson College, Alaska](#)

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[Sheldon Jackson College, Scholarships](#)

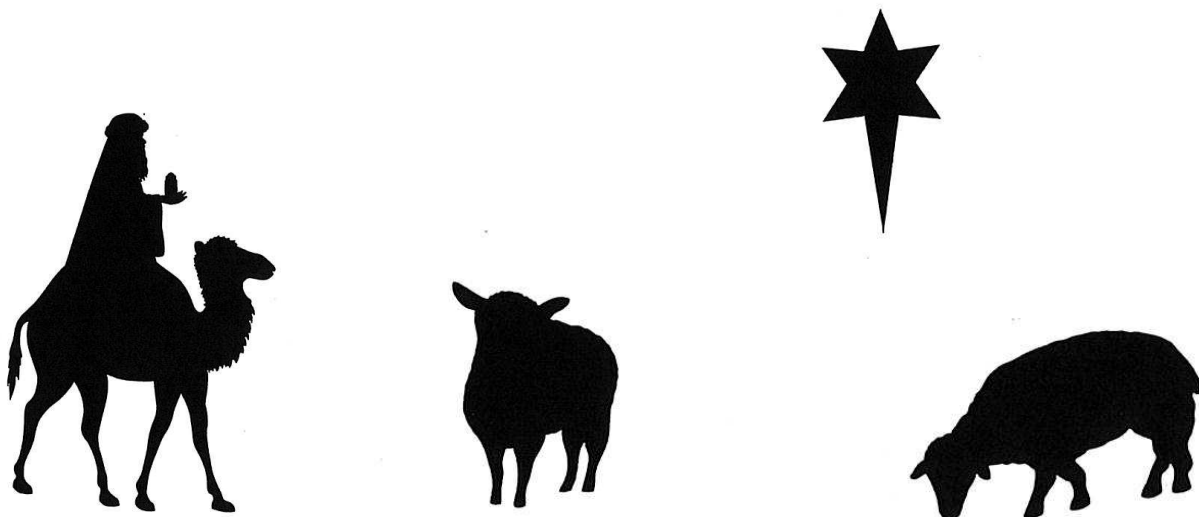
Contributions will provide half tuition for a Yupik student.

[Stillman College, Alabama](#)

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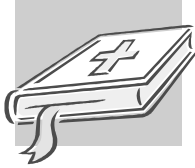
[Stillman College, Scholarships For Needy Students](#)

Assisting students with unmet financial needs.



Sunday School News!

Middle School and High School classes: 10:30-11:15AM. Join Sylvia or Bill!



Pre-school and Elementary Schedule for December:

December 4th - Christmas program Practice at 10:30-11:15

December 11th – Christmas Program Practice at 10:30 - 11:15

December 17th – Saturday Christmas Program Practice - 10AM-Noon program practice,
Noon Lunch, 12:30PM-2PM Crafts, 2PM pick up children.

December 18th - Christmas Program during the Worship Service - No Class Afterwards.

December 25th - No Class (All Grades)

January 1st - No Class (All Grades)

January 8th - Classes Resume (All Grades)

If you have any question please don't hesitate to contact me: 563-321-3657 or lynn.richards@dybb.com

Thank you, Lynn Richards

