

Evangelical United Church of Christ
 33 South Ellis Street, Cape Girardeau, Missouri
January 3, 2010
 Sunday Before the Epiphany of the Lord
 [*Those who are able are invited to stand]

PRELUDE

CHORAL INTROIT

***CALL TO WORSHIP** —Isaiah 60, Matthew 2

LEADER: Arise, shine, for your light has come.

PEOPLE: The glory of the Lord has risen upon you!

LEADER: The glory of God shines in the darkness.

PEOPLE: Lift up your eyes and look around.

LEADER: Follow the star, wherever it leads!

PEOPLE: Take the journey that leads to the child.

LEADER: Let your hearts rejoice.

PEOPLE: Be overwhelmed with joy!

ALL: We worship the Christ child, the hope of the world.

***SENTENCES OF ADORATION**

LEADER: Alleluia. We have seen the star in the East and have come to worship the Ruler of the Jews.

***HYMN OF ADORATION**

“What Child Is This?” —281

CALL TO CONFESSION OF SIN

LEADER: God has come to us in Christ, but we often live as if it made no difference. Let us confess our sin.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ALL: Lord of living light, we hear the story of the Magi and tie it together with our warm Christmas celebration. It feels comfortable to us. Break those bonds of comfort and help us to realize the risk of witness and discipleship for those who follow your light. Shine brightly in us and through us. Forgive the blindness we so often offer to you. Give us vision of what you would have us be and do in the Light of Your Love. AMEN.

Silence

Prayer List —January 3, 2010

In case of hospitalization or surgery please notify our church office. When being admitted to a hospital be sure to tell them that you are affiliated with this congregation. * indicates a new request. **Please note: after six months names will be removed from the prayer list, unless an update is made to the church office.**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Leo Amelunke; 12-09 Josh Amelunke; 12-09 *Marvin Best, JR; 12-09 Ruth Bierschwal; 07-09 Connie Blattner; 11-09 Dora Briggs; 07-09 Aleene Ellinger; 08-09 [Jane McMillan's Mother] Lillian Graden; 09-09 Virginia Heise; 08-09 Joan Hope Ernie Jordan; 10-09 *Ida Mae Jordan; 12-09 Michael Juegens; 05-09 [Lisa Spencer's Brother] Carolyn Keese; 12-09 [Bolton Family Friend] David Kies; 11-09 Sally McMillan; 01-10 [Bill & Jane's sister-in-law] | Mehrle Family; 06-09 Ester Nussbaum Marilyn Propst; 11-09 Jean Ratliff; 08-09 [Jamaican CMM] Bob Roloff; 09-09 Jacob Sandvos; 12-09 [Barbara Lynch's Grandson] Slaughter Family; 08-09 Chris Spivey; 08-09 [Michelle's Nephew] Tanner Stallins; 10-09 Margaret Tallent; 07-09 Marjorie Thompson; 07-09 J.D. Treadwell; 09-09 Norma Trickey; 12-09 Burnell Turner; 11-09 Winfield Family; 07-09 | Ratliff Nursing Home Polly Wilmsmeyer Fountainbleau Lodge Alta Proffer Veteran's Home Frank Maevers, Sr. Kenny Mehrle Lutheran Home Dorothy Cole Leonard Moore Ester Nussbaum House Bound Loyd Bollinger S.G. Coy Mary Huckstep David Kies Helen Owens |
|---|---|---|

| Financial Report | General Fund | Memorial Gen. Fund | Memorial Fund | Building Fund | Misc. |
|------------------|--------------|--------------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|
| 12-06-09 | \$2,300.00 | \$20.00 | --- | \$10.00 | \$15.00 |
| 12-13-09 | \$5,531.00 | --- | --- | \$11.00 | \$136.00 |
| 12-20-09 | \$1,527.00 | --- | --- | --- | \$80.00 |
| 12-27-09 | \$1,904.00 | --- | --- | \$25.00 | \$76.00 |
| Worship Dates | # of People | Scholarship Fund | OCWM | Sunday School | Total Offering |
| 12-06-09 | 50 | \$100.00 | \$20.00 | \$40.00 | \$2,505.00 |
| 12-13-09 | 53 | --- | \$5.00 | \$22.00 | \$5,705.00 |
| 12-20-09 | 71 | \$20.00 | --- | \$22.00 | \$1,649.00 |
| 12-27-09 | 42 | --- | --- | \$17.00 | \$2,147.00 |

Welcome first time guests! We're glad that you are here! We invite everyone to complete a Communication card [located on the Information Table] and place it in the offering plate. You are important to us and we want to know that you are here.

Evangelical United Church of Christ
 33 S. Ellis Street
 Cape Girardeau, MO 63703
 [573] 335-5611
Email Address: eucc-cape@sbcglobal.net
Web Site: www.evangelicalucc-cape.org
Pastor: Pastor Daniel Johnson
Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Ernest Jordan
Organist: Beverly Reece
Sound System: Terry & Mindy Best

Diaconate: Bill & Rhonda Bolton
Greeters: Bill & Jane McMillan
Reader: Rhonda Bolton

Ushers: Michael Bodine, Bill Bolton, Rhonda Bolton, Maxine Hale, Kaye Lee, Frank Maevers, Gary Metje, Barbara Oberbeck, Helen Owens, Verla Sailer, Rebecca & Tom Schild, Brian Stahlman, & Bonnie Wilkening [2010 Diaconate]

On the Calendar

Jan 3 Sunday Worship, 10:35 AM
Communion Sunday

Jan 6 Epiphany
 Confirmation @ Emanuel, 6:30 PM

Jan 9 MO Mentoring, 10:00 AM-1:00 PM

Jan 10 Fellowship Time, 9:00 AM
 Adult Bible Study, 9:30 AM
 Sunday School, 9:30 AM
 Sunday Worship, 10:35 AM
**UCC Group Planning Meeting,
 @ 5:30 PM**
 Taking Down of the Greens—after
 Church services — lunch included
 Of chili & hotdogs

Jan 12 Diaconate, 7:00 PM

Jan 18 **Deadline for turning in the
 articles for the Annual Report.**
 Council, 7:30 PM

Jan 24 Annual Meeting & Dinner



2009 Annual Report

On Friday, January 1st, we will say "Hello" to the New Year of 2010. As we greet the new year with open arms, we also usher in the *end of year reports*. The deadline for turning in reports is January 18th. PLEASE get the reports in on time. I have a limited amount of time to prepare the 2009 Annual Report for the January 24th Annual Business Meeting and Dinner. I appreciate your cooperation.

Sincerely,
 Susan Spinks
 Church Secretary

| | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Apple Butter | Dumplings |
| 40 Quarts | 15 Bags |
| \$6.00 per Qt | \$3.50 per bag |

PRAYER FOR MERCY
 LEADER: Lord, have mercy.
PEOPLE: Christ, have mercy.
 LEADER: Lord, have mercy.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON
 LEADER: Be of good courage, for God sent the Word into the world not to judge but to save. I say to you in the name of Jesus Christ: our sin is forgiven. Through the power of the Spirit, let us live as children of God.
PEOPLE: AMEN.

***PASSING THE PEACE** —Psalm 72, Ephesians 3
 LEADER: The mystery of Christ has been revealed to the world. In that mystery, peace abounds. Share the mystery of Christ's plentiful peace. The peace of the Lord be with you.
PEOPLE: And also with you.
 LEADER: Let us pass the peace of Christ to one another.

***ACT OF PRAISE**
ALL SING: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost, As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.

READING OF SCRIPTURE
 Isaiah 60:1-6 Page 1155

PSALM 72:1-7, 10-14
 Give the ruler your justice, O God,
and your righteousness to a ruler's heir.
 May the ruler judge your people with righteousness,
and your poor with justice.
 May the mountains yield prosperity for the people,
and the hills, in righteousness.
 May the ruler defend the cause of the poor of the people,
give deliverance to the needy, and crush the oppressor.
 May the ruler live while the sun endures, and as long as the moon,
throughout all generations.
 May the ruler be like rain that falls on the mown grass,
like showers that water the earth.
 In the ruler's days may righteousness flourish
and peace abound, until the moon is no more.
 May the monarchs of Tarshish and of the isles render the ruler tribute,
may the monarch of Sheba and Seba bring gifts.

May all monarchs fall down before the ruler,
all nations give the ruler service.
For the ruler delivers the needy when they call,
the poor and those who have no helper.
The ruler has pity on the weak and the needy,
and saves the lives of the needy.
From oppression and violence the ruler redeems their life;
and precious is their blood in the ruler's sight.

READING OF SCRIPTURE

Ephesians 3:1-12 Page 1820
*Matthew 2:1-12 Page 1497

SERMON —Pastor Daniel Johnson
“Following the Light”

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

United Church of Christ Statement of Faith [original version]

ALL: We believe in God, the Eternal Spirit, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ and our Father, and to his deeds we testify: He calls the worlds into being, creates man in his own image and sets before him the ways of life and death. He seeks in holy love to save all people from aimlessness and sin. He judges men and nations by his righteous will declared through prophets and apostles. In Jesus Christ, the man of Nazareth, our crucified and risen Lord, he has come to us and shared our common lot, conquering sin and death and reconciling the world to himself. He bestows upon us his Holy Spirit, creating and renewing the church of Jesus Christ, binding in covenant faithful people of all ages, tongues, and races. He calls us into his church to accept the cost and joy of discipleship, to be his servants in the service of men, to proclaim the gospel to all the world and resist the powers of evil, to share in Christ's baptism and eat at his table, to join him in his passion and victory. He promises to all who trust him forgiveness of sins and fullness of grace, courage in the struggle for justice and peace, his presence in trial and rejoicing, and eternal life in his kingdom which has no end. Blessing and honor, glory and power be unto him. Amen.

CHORAL ANTHEM

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

LEADER: The magi paid homage to the child, offering gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. May we too bring the gifts of our lives and offer them in joy to Jesus Christ.

***OFFERTORY RESPONSE “Doxology” —815**
Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise Him, all creatures here below.
Praise Him above, ye heav’n-ly host.
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. A-men.

*OFFERING PRAYER

LEADER: Let us pray. As long ago travelers laid their gifts before the Christ child, we too bring our gifts with great joy. Use our gifts for justice and righteousness, that oppression and violence may cease and peace may flourish. May the light of your love shine through our living, that suffering may end, and all may rejoice in your gift of life.

PEOPLE: AMEN.

SEE COMMUNION INSERT

***HYMN OF PARTING**
“As with Gladness Men of Old” —290

*COMMISSIONING

LEADER: Go forth and follow the star. When you have found the child, tell the good news to the world. May the blessings of God’s love fill your hearts with overwhelming joy.

*BENEDICTION

LEADER: You are the light of the world. Let your light so shine that others may see the good things you do and glorify God. God is with us now and always. In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, go in peace. AMEN.

*CHORAL EXTROIT

*POSTLUDE

HOLY COMMUNION
Evangelical United Church of Christ
January 3, 2010

***INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

LEADER: By the light of the star, God led travelers to the Christ child. When they saw the child they were overwhelmed with joy. By the light of divine love, God leads us to this holy meal. Gathered together, we encounter the living Christ and taste the deepest joy.

***COMMUNION PRAYER**

LEADER: Holy God, we praise and bless you for creation and the gift of life and for your abiding love which brings us close to you, the source of all blessing. We thank you for revealing your will for us in the giving of the law and in the preaching of the prophets. We thank you especially that in the fullness of time you sent Jesus, born of Mary, to live in our midst, to share in our suffering, and to accept the pain of death at the hands of those whom Jesus loved. We rejoice that in a perfect victory over the grave you raised Christ with power to become sovereign in your realm. We celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit to gather your church by which your work may be done in the world and through which we share the gift of eternal life. Because, O God, you have manifested yourself in Jesus the Christ, begotten from the heart of your love, Word of Truth, Light of Light, we give you thanks and praise. The angels caroled glory to you in the highest heavens and peace to all people on earth, and we join with them and with all people to praise your holy name:

***ALL: Holy Lord, God of endless love,
heaven and earth are surely full of your glory.
The angels sang of it - we have been lavished with it.
Blessed is he who was born that we might have life.
Glory to God and on earth peace to all people.***

[The people may be seated.]

PASTOR: Holy God, as the travelers with their treasures were overwhelmed with joy on finding Jesus, so we also are overwhelmed on finding out the depth of his love for us. For Jesus showed just how beloved we are to him, by loving us and giving himself for us. On that night when he gave himself up for us, as he sat at the table and broke bread with his friends, he said: 'Take and eat; this is my body which is broken for you. Remember me each time you do this.' After

they had eaten, he took the cup, and said: 'Remember me as you drink from this, for it is my life, poured out for you - the beginning of a new relationship with God.' Send the power of your Holy Spirit upon these gifts of bread and wine, O God, that we may experience the presence of the Word-made-flesh – Jesus Christ. Breathe your Spirit in us that we may be one body with him – living out his ministry in the world today and every day. This we pray in Jesus' name.

PEOPLE: AMEN.

PRAYER OF OUR SAVIOR

LEADER: Let us pray as Christ our Savior has taught us.

ALL: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

BREAKING BREAD & POURING WINE

PASTOR: Through the broken bread we participate in the body of Christ.

PASTOR: Through the cup of blessing we participate in the new life Christ gives.

LAMB OF GOD

***ALL: Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace.***

CALL TO THE SUPPER

PASTOR: The gifts of God for the people of God. Come, for all things are ready.

SHARING THE ELEMENTS

PASTOR: Eat this, for it is the body of Christ, broken for you.

PEOPLE: Amen.

PASTOR: Drink this, for it is the blood of Christ, shed for you.

PEOPLE: Amen.

PASTOR: Our Savior Jesus Christ keep and preserve you to everlasting life.

***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

LEADER: Let us pray.

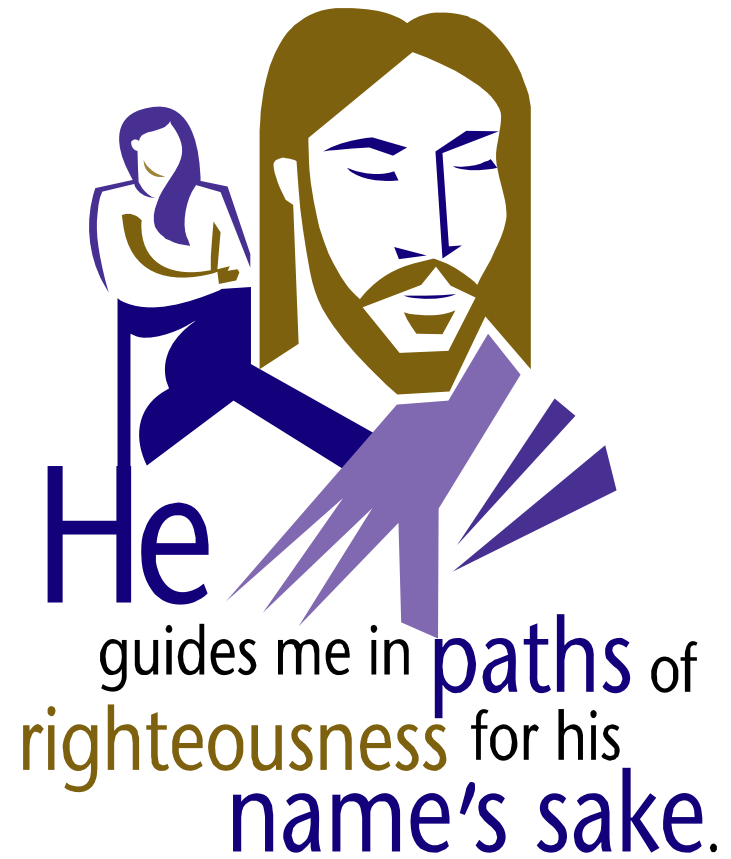
ALL: We thank you, God, for inviting us to this table where we have known the presence of Christ and have received all Christ's gifts. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and let us show forth your praise in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION

Evangelical United Church of Christ

33 South Ellis Street
Cape Girardeau, MO 63703

January 3, 2010



Psalm 23:3