

## Happy New Year!

It's time to begin again. What a blessing for us that we serve a God who allows us to begin again every day. The hymn, *Great is Thy Faithfulness*, says, "morning by morning, new mercies I see." Each morning God gives us a brand new opportunity to develop a deeper relationship with God, to serve God and to serve each other. 2012 is indeed a new mercy-a new year, a new beginning, a new and exciting time in the life of Trinity United Presbyterian Church. It is my prayer that we can generate some excitement as we think about the opportunities and the possibilities for a congregation such as ours filled with diversity, love and the Spirit of the Living God which hovers over us and indwells each and every one of us. Trinity United is a church growing in service opportunities. There is something for each of us to do.

As we move into 2012, the Session at its December meeting elected a new treasurer,

*(Continued from page 1)*

Carolyn Scott. Since the loss of our faithful treasurer Janis Beach in November, the finance team has undergone some changes and adjustments and Carolyn has stepped up and taken on the responsibility of our church finances with a positive and prayerful attitude. The Finance Team is seeking individuals who might be interested in serving as Assistant Treasurers and as counters. The Session has also approved the development of two new teams: a **Communications Team** and a **Missions Team**. We are currently seeking individuals who may have an interest in serving on either team. If you believe god is calling you to serve the church in 2012, please let me know. It's a New Year and it's time we all did our part. No service is too big or too small. I look forward to hearing from you in 2012!

Blessings & Love,

Pastor Lawson



## Updates from the Session

- **New Treasurer:** With the start of a new year and a new season at Trinity United, welcome our new treasurer, Carolyn Scott. Let's be sure to give Carolyn all of our love, support and prayers as she takes on this new endeavor.
- **Elders Christine Cook, Sharron Alexander and Pat Miller** are ending their terms on Session. It is with the deepest gratitude, love and appreciation that we thank these ladies for serving the Session and the church as consistent, loyal and faithful leaders.

- **January Calendar Items**

Officer Training—January 7, 2012 from  
10am-2pm

Installation & Ordination of New Officers—  
Sunday, January 8, 2012

Session Meeting—January 9, 2012 at 4pm  
(please note Session is meeting on  
The 2nd Monday)

Baptism of James Dixon—January 22, 2012  
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Flint  
Presentation (during coffee hour)  
January 22, 2012

Annual Meeting—January 29, 2012

Anniversaries  
to  
Celebrate



Michael & Karen Fischer.....20  
Ronald & Catherine Ainsworth.....20

*Birthdays  
to  
Celebrate*



John Beach.....8  
Malvina Middleton.....8  
Marie Barry.....9  
Ernestine Moore.....13  
Joe Dixon.....14  
Gary Popovits.....16  
Tim Bausack.....22  
Matt Burton.....24  
Joyce Topham.....28

If I have missed your Birthday or Anniversary  
Please contact me with the correction.

Thank You!      Pat Rice

## **Special Care Members & Friends**

Ron Auger  
Peggy Brack  
Celestine Bronson  
Betty Elford  
Violet Flaming  
June Foltz  
Dr. Alfred Gwillim  
Connie Hutchins  
Helen Johnson  
Ann Lomax  
Roy Olson  
Marjorie Rutherford  
Phyllis Scales  
Larry Shoup  
Joan Shirey  
Larry Tilley  
and  
Charlie White

***Please Keep our Special  
Care People in Your Prayers.***

## Nuts & Candies

Don't forget that the finance team still has different nuts and candies for sale during the coffee hour each Sunday. They have some that are in short supply, so hurry before your favorite ones are gone.

All the proceeds will be going to the general fund of the church. This is a church sponsored affair, so please support your church in this way.

Thank You! The Finance Team



### **SUPPORT OUR MEN AND WOMEN IN UNIFORM**

Iran, Afghanistan, Germany, Korea, or right here in the United States, young men and women have put their lives on hold, so that we can be protected from the evils in the world. We need to support the troops wherever they are serving. We can make their lives a little more like home, by sending them some small items from home. Check out the list that is available and please make a donation. Thank you!!



**NEWSLETTER DEADLINE FOR THE  
FEBRUARY ISSUE IS DUE BY JANU-  
ARY 18, 2012. PAT RICE**

# Property Team

The Property Management Team needs your help with a few tasks around the church. If you have the ability to video tape (for insurance purposes) the inside and outside of the church, we need to talk to you. If you received a new chain saw for Christmas and you want to try it out, we need to talk to you too. If you would be able to help readjust some of our storage space in the building or help take things to a new storage locker that will be closer to our church, we need your help. Please call and we will set up a work day after we take the Christmas decorations down for the year.

Ron Shirley 810-653-0580 Thank You!



## A Special Birthday

Our oldest member of Trinity United, John Beach, will be celebrating his **100th** Birthday on January 8, 2012. Below is his address and it would be nice if all the members could send him a Birthday card to show the love and devotion he has given to our church. He has been a past member of Bethany and now of Trinity United for many, many years.

**John Beach**

**18626 N. Spanish Garden Dr. Unit 242**

**Sun City West, AZ 85375**

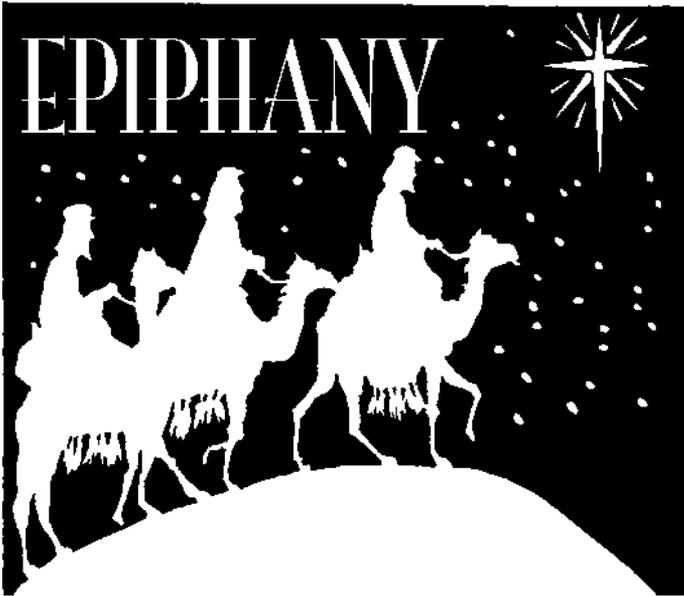
Phone # 1-623-388-3724

**In Remembrance  
of our loved members who  
passed away in the year 2011.**

**Yvonne Groat (sister of Joan Shirey)  
Evelyn Taylor ( wife of Loren, and  
mother of Cynthia Lyttle)  
James Jackson ( wife of Dr. Ernestine  
Jackson)  
Jimmy Williams (former CTL, Elder  
and Deacon)  
Sue Gladding (former Clerk of  
Westminster, Elder)  
Janis I. Beach (Elder, Treasurer, and  
Choir Member)  
Earnestine Towns (Elder, Deacon and  
Greeter)**



*With Sincere Sympathy*



## **Get Ready for Epiphany**

Many Christian denominations celebrate Epiphany each year on or near January 6. “Epiphany,” which means “showing forth,” celebrates the visit of the magi, or wise men, to baby Jesus. These men, also known as kings, saw the star that led them to Bethlehem.

The fact that these wise men were Gentiles, not Jews, teaches us an important theological lesson: Their search for the Savior shows that Jesus came for all people.

## **A New Year**

May God make your year a happy one;

Not by shielding you from all sorrow and pain,

But by strengthening you to bear it as it comes;

Not by making your path easy,

But by making you sturdy to travel any path;

Not by taking hardships from you,

But by taking fear from your heart;

Not by granting you unbroken sunshine,

But by keeping your face bright, even in the  
shadows;

Not by making your life always pleasant,

But by showing you when people and their causes  
need you most,

And by making you anxious to be there to help.

God's love, peace, hope and joy to you for the  
Year ahead.

Author Unknown

## What *Not* to Take into the New Year

- Self-help books—Trust in God first; don't turn to him as a last resort. (Proverbs 3:5-6)
- Tape measure—Consider only God's standards; don't compare yourself to other people. (Luke 18:9-14)
- Rearview mirror—Don't live in the past. You'll miss out on what God is doing in your life now. (Philippians 3:12-14)
- Gavel—Stop wasting time judging others. Instead, pray for them, help them and team with them. (Luke 6:37-38)
- Life vest—Don't be overly cautious spiritually. Peter experienced Jesus in a real way because he dared to step out of the boat. (Matthew 14:22-33)
- Garage-door opener—We think we're networked but often isolate ourselves. God intended for us to live in community with one another. (Hebrews 10:23-25)
- Handcuffs—Don't offer excuses about why you can't help out. God can do amazing things through—and despite— us. Just follow him, with no excuses. (Mark 6:35-44)

Gregg McCastin

# LECTIONARY READINGS

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**January 1, 2012**

*Luke 2:21-40*

**“The Gift is Presented”**

**Rev. Desiree Lawson**

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**January 8, 2012**

*Isaiah 60:1-6*

**“We Are All Connected”**

**Rev. Desiree Lawson**

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**January 15, 2012**

*John 1:43-51*

**“Humble Beginnings”**

**Rev. Desiree Lawson**

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**January 22, 2012**

*Mark 1:14-20*

**“Passed Over”**

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**January 29, 2012**

*Mark 1:21-28*

**“Who Knows Jesus”**

**Rev. Desiree Lawson**