

# THE STEEPLE BELL

Brandenburg United Methodist Church  
215 Broadway  
Brandenburg, KY 40108

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

ORGANIZED 1829  
JANUARY 2010 EDITION  
MINISTER: Jim Robinson

SUNDAY SCHOOL: 10:00 A.M.  
SUNDAY WORSHIP: 8:45 A.M. and 11:00 A.M.

## January Birthdays

(1) Ray Ashley, Jamie Damron (2) Jim Morrison (5) Kevin Stickle (7) Devin Hardy, Martha Pile (8) Bill Plemmons, Dana Whited (9) Lucas Austin, Betty Bonnette, Maggie Wilson (11) Grayson Brown (13) Kirk Baldwin, Sarah Cannady, Georgia Rose Franke (15) Sandy Love, Debbie Norris, Amber Schneider (17) Scotty Applegate (18) Annette Allen, Don Dodson, Pamela Faith (19) Jim Carlson, Maurine Chandler,

Erika Jackson, Jon Roberts (20) Debbie Dame, Lois Hawksworth, Lonnie Roberts, Elizabeth Wilson (21) Anna Mae Fuller (22) Fallon Haines, Jacob Robinson (23) Sarah Greer, Amaya Hannah, Genessa Rydell, Sandra Wood (24) Johnny Bruington, Grace King (26) Miles Barger, Patti Mangin, Nate Wilson (27) Betty Barger, Shannon Barley, Bettyruth Bruington, Franz Holzer, Judy Peace (28) Stephanie Duke, Michelle LaTondress (29) Cole Aegersold, Zoe Love, Julie Parker (30) Kurt Aegersold, Molly Aegersold

PASTOR'S E-MAIL ADDRESS: [crctrdr@yahoo.com](mailto:crctrdr@yahoo.com)  
SECRETARY'S E-MAIL ADDRESS: [rose.zanone@bburgumc.org](mailto:rose.zanone@bburgumc.org)

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION  
PERMIT #6  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
BRANDENBURG, KY 40108

CHURCH: (270) 422-2810  
PARSONAGE: (270) 422-2833

CHURCH WEBSITE: [www.bburgumc.org](http://www.bburgumc.org)  
CHURCH FAX NUMBER: 270-422-5771

Brandenburg United Methodist Church Steeple Bell

## FROM THE PASTOR

As the old year turns into the new, it seems the right time to express my heartfelt appreciation to each person who is a part of the Brandenburg United Methodist Church family – it is an unadulterated joy to be your pastor! I have so much to be thankful for, apart from the blessings that come with BUMC: my family, our health, our home, our faith. But I find great fulfillment simply in being appointed the pastor of the Brandenburg Church! In the past 18 months, I've grown to know and love you, and seen mutual trust increase as the time has passed. Thank you for the privilege of being your pastor!

I especially would like to express thanks for the incredible ways you blessed our family during the holidays. The 10-day pilgrimage to the Holy land was such a gift, one I'll cherish always, and especially as the church covered all the bases in the midst of a busy

## SECOND CHANCE

The renewal of the Halftime program was a great success, thanks to the excellent teachers, leaders, cooks, servers and clean-up crew. Our average attendance on Wednesday nights was about 140. The expenses vs income for the meals was at a break-even level. We thank those who participated in Halftime for their faithfulness and good spirit.

We are now ready for the second semester of Halftime to begin on January 13 with a Kick-off concert by Michael and Annie Bolden. The evening will begin with another good meal from Shirley Aegersold and Karen Ilario at 5:30 pm. We will then gather in the Sanctuary for a concert of Black Spirituals at 6:30 p.m.

Michael and Annie are active members of Christ Church, United Methodist, Louisville. Michael has been on the staff of Christ Church as a tenor soloist and Associate Music Director. He is on the faculty of Butler High School where he



Annie and Michael Bolden

January 2010

Advent season! And if that wasn't enough, the wonderfully surprising "Hallelujah Chorus" presentation on the Sunday I returned was overwhelming – thank you, Praise Team! The presentation of the "evergreen" tree last month was indicative of your generosity, and the many gifts, goodies, gift certificates, cards, visits, and well wishes made this a wonderful Christmas, indeed! Of course, the gifts all year round of fresh fruits and vegetables, office decorating, and so many other expressions simply serve to remind me that I deserve none of the countless blessings I receive through each of you. On behalf of our whole family, I offer a hearty "Thank you!" We love our church!

I look forward to seeing what God has in store for us in 2010! As we gaze into and anticipate the future, we know God has a plan for us...each of us! May you be as richly blessed in the coming year as I and my family have been throughout the past year.

– Bro. Jim

teaches music and humanities. Michael and Annie are long-standing cast members of the "The Stephen Foster Story" in Bardstown, Kentucky. In addition to their inspiring voices, the Boldens bring a passion to the message of their music which touches the hearts of all who hear them. Our organist/pianist Cheri Lawrence will accompany the Boldens for this concert.

Our Halftime classes and groups will begin meeting January 20. You will need to make reservations for the meals. We will continue the list of those who have had standing reservations from the first half, unless we hear from those who will not be able to participate. We will also need commitments from people to help serve the meals and to wash dishes and clean up the kitchen. Floyd Collins will be directing the kitchen cleanup.

Please see Page 3 of the Steeple Bell for class listings and the Wednesday evening schedule.

Russell East  
Director of Programming  
and Administration

**COMMUNION OFFERING  
Human Relations Sunday  
January 3, 2010**

Sunday, January 3, our Communion offering will be for Human Relations Day. This is one of the six yearly United Methodist church-wide offerings. Human Relations Day calls the church to recognize the right of all God's children to realize their potential as human beings.

It also supports programs for community development voluntary services and police-community relations. Your offering provides a secure foundation for God's children of all ages. More than thirty church-based community developers work in racial and ethnic minority communities in the United States and Puerto Rico providing vial outreach.

Your offering on Human Relations Day models Christ's love through:

✦ Local church youth offender rehabilitation projects that match United Methodist mentors with first-time, nonviolent young offenders;

✦ A multiracial network of grass-roots social justice organizations related to United Methodist Voluntary Service.

God calls us to model Christ's love in our churches and communities and to lead others to Christ. Please give generously on Human Relations Day. Your gift can make a world of difference!

**Fifth Sunday Offering**

Sunday, January 31, will be the first Fifth Sunday of 2010. Our special offering on this day will go to the United Methodist Homes for Children and Youth.

This offering is vital in supporting the ministry to abused, neglected and hurting children and youth.

It enables us to help give hope to these children for a brighter future.

Please give generously and help our

Methodist Homes offer these children a chance to live in God's grace and abundant love.

**DREAM TEAM UPDATE**

As we start a new year, we are prayerfully discerning where God would lead Brandenburg United Methodist Church in ministry. We are excited about what He has planned for his Church. We have been meeting regularly for the last three months, working toward developing a mission, vision and strategic plan.

We know that without the input and support of this congregation, as well as God's blessing, all our efforts are doomed to fail. With that in mind, our first two steps are to ask each and every member of the BUMC family to pray for the work of the "Dream Team" and to seek your thoughts on our church ministries.

In January we will ask every BUMC member and regular attendee to complete a quick 5-minute survey. In short, we will be asking what the church does well, what we could do better, and what you think our ministry priorities should be. Your thoughts and ideas are absolutely vital to our efforts. We look forward to hearing from you!

IHS, Scott Wilson

**ATTENDANCE and  
FINANCIAL REPORT  
as of NOVEMBER 30, 2009**

DATE	S.S.	WORSHIP				
Nov. 1	157	8:45 a.m.	195	11:00 a.m.	105	Total 300
Nov. 8	144	8:45 a.m.	163	11:00 a.m.	108	Total 271
Nov. 15	174	8:45 a.m.	156	11:00 a.m.	108	Total 264
Nov. 22	151	8:45 a.m.	170	11:00 a.m.	112	Total 282
Nov. 29	141	8:45 a.m.	156	11:00 a.m.	123	Total 279

**BUDGET FOR 2009:** **\$448,000.00**  
(\$8,615.38 per week)

Budget income received as of November 30	\$357,526.94
Budget income needed as of November 30	\$410,630.00
Short of meeting budget:	(\$-53,103.06)

**DESIGNATED OFFERINGS:**

Mission Fund	20.00
Christmas Baskets	340.00
Coffee Sales	68.75
Charge Conference Offering	171.00
Children's Home	1,169.63
Halftime	838.00
Food Closet	25.00
Youth	746.00
Ministerial Association	175.00
Angel Tree	25.00
Wolfe Landscaping Fund	3.00
Upward Basketball	7,600.00

**BUILDING FUND**

Building Fund Offerings November 1-30	\$1,480.00
Building Fund Offerings for 2009	\$10,210.00
Building Fund Indebtedness	\$5,885.05

Rick Nelson, Treasurer

**MISSION NEWS**

**HONDURAS BOUND!**

It's not too early to make plans for Honduras. Those interested in traveling with us to Honduras on medical mission June 26-July 11 must have been active in the church six months. You must also have a clean background check and two hours safe sanctuary training. Deadline to meet these requirements and make the initial payment to cover airfare is April 15. If you are interested, please contact Claudia Stull at 422-1505. Partial financial support is available.

**EYEGASSES NEEDED**

January is time again to look for those old glasses you don't use anymore and give them a good home. We will be collecting glasses to be sent to Kendall Optometry in Jeffersontown KY to be screened and then sent with mission teams to undeveloped countries. We sent 10 pairs last quarter! Please put any glasses and/or sunglasses in the eyeglass box near the Coffee Cart and we will send them on their way. Who knows where they might end up!

**Facilitators needed for  
Lifeline classes**

Lifeline director Joyce Mann is currently seeking individuals from area churches to facilitate classes on a short-term basis. Classes offered at present are parenting classes and a class called Insight for recovering addicts who have completed a scripture-based 12-step program. Insight (a study on Godly character) meets each Monday from 7-9 p.m. The parenting classes (one for parents of teens, another for parents of younger children)

meet Thursdays, 7-9 p.m. Class materials are provided, and no preparation is required.

At this stage in the recovery process, it is important for the Lifeline participants to interact with church-going people and get plugged into a local church where they can continue to grow in their faith and recovery.

Brandenburg United Methodist Church supports Lifeline financially. Here is an opportunity to support them with your time. All you need, said Joyce, is to love God and love people. For more information, contact Joyce Mann at 547-0254.



**Class Listings and Wednesday Evening  
Schedule for Winter/Spring Halftime**

**The Shack by Wm. Paul Young**

In this repeat study, the class will discuss this #1 *New York Times* bestseller, a religious fictional novel that deals with tragedy and loss and how a man comes to know God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit. It is a challenging short novel that helps us come to understand God's presence in our lives in good times and bad times. Russell East will lead the class.

**Yes, Lord, I Have Sinned But I Have Several Excellent Excuses by James W. Moore**

Why is it, James Moore asks, that we try to justify anything and everything we want to do? We use words, scapegoats, blaming, other people, circumstances, past events, even evil spirits to attempt to excuse bad choices we make with our own free will. What does the Christian faith have to say about this. This study reminds us of what our faith tells us about excuses. Leader to be announced.

**God Speaks Your Love Language: How to Feel and Reflect God's Love by Gary Chapman**

This is the book Gary Chapman was born to write... the one Chapman title *everyone* should read, Christian and non-Christian alike. The best-selling author of The Five Love Languages books, Dr. Chapman says, "The purpose of this book is to help people enjoy living, and have peace about dying. To love and be loved, what could be more important?" Once you discover your primary love language in human relationships, you can assume that will also be your primary love language in your relationship with God. Whether we are speaking to God or He is speaking to us – we are feeling God's love and presence strongest in one particular way! By teaching readers to tap into divine love, Chapman helps them relate to God in a way that will totally revolutionize their will to love one another. Jim Robinson will lead the class.

In addition to these classes, the following groups will meet:

- ✦ Brothers and Sisters in Christ (various leaders)
- ✦ Preschool Choir led by Stephanie Stone
- ✦ Children's Choir led by Mimi Willson
- ✦ Adult Choir led by John Trotter
- ✦ Youth Meeting led by Nicki Banks

**Wednesday Evening Schedule**

5:45 – 6:30 pm	Church Family Mealtime
6:30 – 7:20 pm	Studies, choirs, groups
7:30 – 8:15 pm	Adult choir

**SERVING OUR CHURCH IN JANUARY**

**8:45 AM SERVICE**  
 Pray with Pastor: Tom McQuary  
 Ushers: Alec Stone, Ed Stull  
 Doug & Sandra Stone  
 Greeters: Narthex - Davey Mitcham  
 Parish Hall- Sue Mitchham  
 Atrium - Shirley Aebersold  
 Information Table: Jessie Moore  
 Communion Servers: Bill & Joy Adams  
 Bryan & Martha Claycomb

**January 3**  
 Children's Moment: Bill Adams  
 Cherub Church: No Cherub Church  
 Children's Church: No Children's Church  
**January 10**  
 Children's Moment: Michelle LaTondress  
 Cherub Church: Becky & Colin Crump  
 Children's Church: Michelle & Whitney Hobbs  
**January 17**  
 Children's Moment: Paul Mik  
 Cherub Church: No Cherub Church  
 Children's Church: No Children's Church  
**January 24**  
 Children's Moment: Bill Adams  
 Cherub Church: Stephanie Stone  
 Cassidy Adams, Hannah King

Children's Church: Sandy Dupin  
**January 31**  
 Children's Moment: Roxanne Miles  
 Cherub Church: Becky & Colin Crump  
 Children's Church: Kelly Nelson  
**11:00 a.m. SERVICE**  
 Pray with Pastor: Don Martin  
 Tellers: Beverly Furnival, Don Dodson  
 Ushers: Ron Barger (Head Usher), Jimmy Wilson, Ken & Bonnie Clendenin, Mary Lee Ernst  
 Greeters: Narthex - Terry Nelson  
 Parish Hall - Kelly Nelson  
 Atrium - 10:00 a.m. - Isabel Wilson  
 11:00 a.m. - Christine Ramsey  
 Acolytes: JoLynn Cannady, Abby Nelson  
 Alternate - Katie Wilson  
 Information Table: Joan Wilson  
 Communion Servers: Kay Thomas, Sue Hayes  
 Ben & Maggie Wilson

**Children's Moment**  
 January 3: Russell East  
 January 10: Kelly Nelson  
 January 17: Linda Dodson  
 January 24: Lesley Wilson  
 January 31: Russell East

There is no Cherub or Children's Church at the 11 a.m. worship service. Children ages 3 through Kindergarten are welcome to go to the nursery after Children's Moment.

**If you are unable to serve on the day you are scheduled, please make arrangements, when possible, to switch days with another member.**

**SAFE SANCTUARIES TRAINING**

Our church is required to implement the safe sanctuaries policy as adopted by the Kentucky Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church.

Anyone who works in any capacity with youth 18 and under will be required to complete the two-hour training and a background check. This will include anyone working with Sunday School, nursery, Upward Basketball, VBS and all chaperones. It also includes anyone who will be going on a domestic or international mission trip through the United Methodist Volunteers in Mission.

Please make plans to attend the Safe Sanctuaries training on Monday, January 25, at 7 p.m. in the Parish Hall. If you have any questions, please contact Charlotte Shepard at 270-863-2541, Stephanie Stone at 270-668-8075, or Beth Greer at 547-8312.

We appreciate, in advance, everyone's cooperation as we work to protect what is most precious to us - the children of our church family.

**JANUARY EVANGELISM AND CONGREGATIONAL CARE**

**Evangelism Volunteers for first time guests**  
 Lee Klockow & Jeff Cannady

**Medco and Beehive Visitation**  
 Isabel Wilson

**Shut-in Food Preparation**  
 Week 1 - Joan Wilson, Robyn Proctor  
 Week 2 - Karen Ilario  
 Week 3 - Martha Claycomb, Judy Applegate  
 Week 4 - Jessie Moore

**Shut-in Food Delivery**  
 Week 1 - John Bruington, Phyllis Melton  
 Week 2 - Karen & Bruno Ilario, Phyllis Melton  
 Week 3 - Judy Applegate, Phyllis Melton  
 Week 4 - Tom & Jessie Moore, Phyllis Melton

Monthly Servers: The monthly servers are now listed in the last Sunday of the month's bulletin, the monthly Steeple Bell and on the bulletin board across from the church office.

**JANUARY CALENDAR**

**Regular Weekly Events:**  
 \*For church contact and number, see below

**Sunday, January 3, 10, 17, 24, 31**  
 8:45 a.m. Informal Worship Service  
 10:00 a.m. Sunday School  
 11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Service  
 5:00 p.m. Brothers in Christ (church)  
 Praise Team Rehearsal  
 6:00 p.m. UMYF  
 7:00 p.m. Interpretive Movement

**Monday, January 4, 11, 18, 25**  
 6:00 p.m. Upward Basketball practice

**Tuesday, January 5, 12, 19, 26**  
 6:45 a.m. Brothers in Christ (McDonalds)  
 6:00 p.m. Upward Basketball practice  
 8:30 p.m. Men's Emmaus Reunion Group

**Wednesday, January 6**  
 9:30 a.m. Ladies' Bible Study  
 7:30 p.m. Adult Choir  
 Brothers in Christ (church)

**Wednesday, January 13**  
 9:30 a.m. Ladies' Bible Study  
 5:45 p.m. Halftime Supper  
 7:30 p.m. Adult Choir  
 Brothers in Christ (church)  
 Ladies' Emmaus Reunion Group

**Wednesday, January 20, 27**  
 9:30 a.m. Ladies' Bible Study  
 5:45 p.m. Halftime Supper  
 6:30 p.m. Preschool & Children's Choir (KIC Club), Adult Studies/Groups, Youth, Sisters in Christ, Brothers in Christ (church)  
 7:30 p.m. Adult Choir  
 Brothers in Christ (church)  
 Ladies' Emmaus Reunion Group

**Thursday, January 7, 14, 21, 28**  
 6:30 a.m. Brothers in Christ (church)  
 9:00 a.m. Sisters in Christ  
 6:00 p.m. Upward Basketball practice  
 6:30 p.m. Brothers in Christ (EDJ. Bldg.)

**Saturday, January 9, 16, 23, 30**  
 7:00 a.m. Brothers in Christ (church)  
 9:00 a.m. Upward Basketball games

**Visit our Web site, [www.bburgumc.org](http://www.bburgumc.org), for news, photos and calendar updates**

**New Events:**  
**Monday, January 4**  
 12:00 p.m. Ministerial Association Luncheon/Meeting  
 6:00 p.m. Mission Team Meeting  
 6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts & Webelos  
**Wednesday, January 6**  
 6:00 p.m. Ladies' Emmaus Reunion Group (Miguel's)  
**Thursday, January 7**  
 6:00 p.m. Trustee Meeting  
**Sunday, January 10**  
 4:30 p.m. Leadership & Team Meetings  
 6:00 p.m. Church Council  
**Wednesday, January 13**  
 6:30 p.m. Halftime Kickoff with Annie and Michael Bolden  
**Saturday, January 16**  
 Youth Ski trip to Perfect North  
**Sunday, January 17**  
 3:00 p.m. Family Life Center reserved  
**Monday, January 18**  
 6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts & Webelos  
**Tuesday, January 19**  
 8:30 a.m. VA Officer  
**Thursday, January 21**  
 1:00 p.m. N.A.R.F.E.  
**Monday, January 25**  
 7:00 p.m. Safe Sanctuaries training  
**Tuesday, January 26**  
 1:30 p.m. UMW  
**Friday, January 29**  
 6:30 p.m. Cub Scout Pack 150 (FLC)

**The church office will be closed Friday, January 1, in observance of New Year's Day and on Monday, January 18, in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.**

**Halftime Menus**

**January 13**  
 Meatloaf, mashed potatoes, coleslaw, broccoli casserole, dessert  
**January 20**  
 Chicken noodle soup, biscuits, dessert  
**January 27**  
 Hamburger steak with noodles, green beans, salad, dessert  
*Menus are Subject to Change*

**BRANDENBURG UNITED METHODIST CHURCH LEADERSHIP 2010**

**Disciplinary Required Committees and Officers**

**Committee on Lay Leadership**

2012	2011	2010
Jody Young	Judy Stone	Eric King
Barrett Howard	Bill Adams	Sue Mitcham
Martha Claycomb	Patti Klockow	Terry Nelson

**Staff-Parish Relations Committee**

2012	2011	2010
Bryan Honaker	Bryan Claycomb	Alec Stone
Ronnie Joyner	Stephanie Stone	Jon Miller
Mary Lee Ernst	Bill Plemmons	Eric King

**Trustees**

2012	2011	2010
Tom McQuary	Paul Mik	Jeff Cannady
Pat Carlson	Monty Hobbs	Dottie Selter
Roger Furnival	Ronnie Barger	Bruno Ilario

**Finance Committee**

T. Parker	Chair
Leona Cannady	Lay Leader
Pat & Jim Carlson	Lay Delegates to Annual Conference
Rick Nelson	Treasurer
Mike Bruington	Stewardship Chair
Brian King	At-large Member
Ilene Aebersold	At-large Member

**Endowment Committee**

T. Parker	Finance Chair
Rick Nelson	Treasurer
Jeff Cannady	Trustee Chair
Sue Mitcham	At-large 2010
Bryan Claycomb	At-large 2011
Donna Funk	At-large 2012

**Leadership structure for BUMC beyond what is required by The Book of Discipline Each position elected year-to-year except as noted**

**Dream Team**

Scott Wilson, Chair	Jim Robinson, Pastor
Pam Hamilton	Mitch Crump
Lee Klockow	Martha Pile
Kara Hawkins	Alec Stone
Maggie Wilson	Jackie Bruington
Dave Harper	Carl Austin

**Church Council**

Don Martin	Chair
Edie Harper	Recording Secretary
Rev. Jim Robinson	Pastor
Leona Cannady	Lay Leader
Pat Carlson	Delegate to Annual Conference
Jim Carlson	Alt. Delegate to Annual Conference
	Captain of Prayer Team
	Captain of Evangelism Team
Elizabeth Wilson	Captain of Discipleship Team

Karen Ilario	Co-Captain, Congregational Care Team
Ara Lawrence	Co-Captain, Congregational Care Team
Charlotte Shepard	Captain of Mission Team
Heather Wilson	Captain of Worship Team
Sandra Stone	Captain of Communications Team
Jeff Cannady	Trustee Chair
T. Parker	Finance Chair
Jon Miller	SPRC Chair
Mike Bruington	Stewardship Chair
Tom McQuary	At-large Member

**Prayer Team**

Rev. Jim Robinson	Team Captain
	Staff Resource Contact

**Evangelism Team**

Rev. Jim Robinson	Team Captain
	Staff Resource Contact

**Discipleship Team**

Elizabeth Wilson	Team Captain
Rev. Russell East	Staff Resource Contact
Lesley Wilson	Children's Ministry Rep.
Ilene Aebersold	Youth Ministry Rep.
Susan Plemmons	Family Ministries Rep.
Elizabeth Wilson	Family Ministries Rep.
Leona Cannady	College Ministries Rep.
Marvin Fackler	United Methodist Men's Rep.
Paula Harrop	United Methodist Women's Rep.
Rusty Padgett	Sunday School Superintendent

**Congregational Care Team**

Karen Ilario	Team Co-Captain
Ara Lawrence	Team Co-Captain
Rev. Johnny Bruington	Staff Resource Contact
Kellie Stull	New Mother Ministry
Robyn Proctor	Recovery Ministry
Nancy Inman	
Jessie Moore	Caregiver Care Ministry
Christine Ramsey	Nursing Home Ministry
Debbie Denton	
Karen Ilario	Shut-in Ministry

**Mission Team**

Charlotte Shepard	Team Captain
Beth Greer	Jail Ministries
Rev. Jim Robinson	Staff Resource Contact

**Worship Team**

Heather Wilson	Team Captain
John Trotter	Staff Resource Contact
Scott Wilson	Multi-Media Advisor
Heather Wilson	8:45 a.m. Worship Resource Leader
Donna Reed	Wedding Coordinator

**Communications Team**

Sandra Stone	Team Captain
Rose Zanone	Staff Resource Contact

**BUMC YOUTH NEWS**

Happy New Year! As I write this, we continue to prepare for what will hopefully be a great New Year's Eve Lock-In for the BUMC youth. We're expecting somewhere between 30 to 40 kids and look forward to a fantastic night of fun and fellowship!

So what makes January 1 so significant? Why do we convince ourselves that if we need to make changes in our lives, we might as well wait until the New Year to do it? Is our probability for success better in January? Is it because we know we can gorge ourselves over the holidays without regret if we have a plan to work it off in the New Year?

Mostly, we think of the New Year as a clean slate, a chance for a fresh start. As Christians, we must realize that God's amazing grace gives us the opportunity for a "fresh start" each and every moment of every day. What a relief to know that we don't have to wait for Dick Clark to drop the ball in Times Square for us to improve our relationship with Christ.

**Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away, behold, all things have become new.**

2 Corinthians 5:17

My hope for 2010 and the BUMC youth group is that we will continue to grow closer together as we grow closer to Christ. For that to happen, it will take each and every one of us committing ourselves to him and each other! Personally, I can't wait to get started!

Please mark these dates on your calendars. More details to come!

**Saturday, January 16** – Snow Skiing at Perfect North Slopes! Will need adventurous adults to chaperone and help with transportation. Contact Nicki Banks or Barrett Howard if interested.

**Sunday, January 24** – Youth Sunday! Youth will lead worship in both services.

**February 19-21** – Youth Retreat at Camp Nikao in Elizabethtown! This promises to be a great weekend of spiritual growth, teambuilding and FUN.

**God Bless,  
Barrett Howard**



Dear church friends,

Your kind words, visits, cards, food and flowers have meant so much to us this fall as we have mourned the loss of Ronnie's mother on August 21 and my father on October 31. Thank you for your love and support.

Betty and Ron Barger  
Miles and Keane



Thank you to all who helped decorate the sanctuary and church so beautifully. A big *thank you* to Pat Carlson who made the blue paraments for the advent season.

Heather Wilson



A special *thank you* to all who donated baked goods for an/or bought items at our annual Youth Bake Auction. Thanks to you, we raised \$1,565 for our BUMC Youth Ministry!

Nicki Banks & Barrett Howard



The year 2009 is fading away – 2010 is just around the corner. To all the volunteers who help with the Steeple Bell, just a big "Thank you." It's been a fun year and the fellowship is something we all enjoy. May our New Year be one we all can enjoy.

Virgie K. Taylor



A big thanks to Brandenburg United Methodist Church: What a nice surprise! Your gift was very generous and very thoughtful. Thanks so much!

Mrs. Hibbard's Class  
Meade County High School

*Note: Kristin Hibbard's Community Based Education class at Meade County High School sets up the tables and chairs each Wednesday for halftime dinners. To show appreciation for their hard work, we took up a love offering two Wednesday evenings, and the church matched those contributions to give a monetary gift to the class for whatever activity they chose.*