

# CHRISTCHURCH PRESBYTERIAN GOOD NEWS

Volume 11, Issue 01

January 2011

## 2011, An Exciting Year at ChristChurch

By John Hirling

The Marine Corp may boast, "the few, the proud" but we're seeking "the many, the humble, the not so humble and everything in between". They may look for "a few good men." We want a whole bunch of women and men, girls and boys.

Why? Because we're excited. We're pumped. We're in the early stages of implementing something new for ChristChurch – something which we believe will empower us to be an even more vital, effective, and inspiring community of faith.

The early stages have included the hard work of the Vision Transition Team under the leadership of Anita Bettis; the aid of New Covenant Presbytery in the persons of vision consultants Diane Prevary and Jim Bushong; a now-not-so-new vision statement:

**Trusting in God's guidance, ChristChurch Presbyterian invites all to join us as we gather joyfully, grow spiritually and give passionately in service to Christ, each other and our community;**

a full Saturday of elders reviewing the ministries of ChristChurch and the adoption by Session of a plan that will move us from many committees doing limited ministries to a few teams coordinating multiple min-

istries. Now we're ready to begin expanding that transformation to all of you and to our surrounding community.

Friends, to borrow a phrase from an old commercial, this is not your father's Oldsmobile. This is not "rearranging deck chairs" on a cruise ship. This is an effort

to approach ministry from a 'goals' perspective rather than a 'tasks' perspective. This is an effort to build Christian community, develop spiritually, and witness to the world the love of God in Jesus Christ.

Yes, some things will be familiar. Furnace filters still need to be changed (until something replaces the furnace). Grass still needs to be mowed – unless we decide to AstroTurf the lawn (that's a stab at humor). Jesus Christ remains head of the body and the gospel remains our message (and that's no joke). But our way of approaching ministry is refocused.

*Continued on page 2*



Rev. John Hirling

*For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness. Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep.*  
-- Romans. 12:3-15

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

CONTENTS	Page
2011, An Exciting Year	1
Eno Sekyere Honored	2
Adult Ministry	3
To the Church Triumphant Nelson Bourn	3
Christian Education	4
Thank you from Blake Alexander's Mom	5
January Birthdays	5
Mission at St. Giles Presbyterian	6

**Newsletter Deadline  
February 21**

**Vision Statement:**  
*Trusting in God's guidance, ChristChurch Presbyterian invites all to join us as we Gather joyfully, Grow spiritually and Give passionately in service to Christ, each other and our community.*

# 2011, An Exciting Year at ChristChurch

*Continued from page 1*

What used to be called standing committees are now Teams. It's more than just semantics. But you'll need to experience the difference to really appreciate it. The Ministry Teams are Gathering, Giving, and Growing. The Support Teams are Facilities, Personnel, and Resources. For the present, the CDC Committee remains in place because of the unique relationship of the school and church.

You might ask, "What does that mean for me?" We hope it means that individuals will be able to pursue ministries for which they have a passion. We hope it means that we will honor the time and skills of all our people by ask-

ing many hands to make light work. Ultimately, we hope that each and every member and friend of the church will have an opportunity to answer God's call to ministry. After all, it is baptism that ordains us into ministry. Our leaders are but trusted servants.

Sunday, January 9th after worship, the Session will meet (in informal session) to determine which ministries fit within the scope of the individual teams. Your attendance and input is most welcome.

What excites you? Is it seeking more meaningful relationship with your Lord? Would you like to find new ways to delve into scripture and connect it to daily living? Maybe discovering ways to

share faith excites you. Or maybe you find the experience of helping others in need fulfilling. We have a place for you!!! Perhaps you are a 'nuts and bolts' person. There's a place for you, as well!!! Whatever your passion, whatever your enthusiasm, whatever your interest, we have a place for you. And if you come up with something we haven't thought of – and there is plenty of room for that – we'll see about making a place for you.

Hang on folks, the future is here!

Grace & peace,  
John

---

## Eno Sekyere Earns Recognition for Outstanding Leadership at Vanderbilt University

Eno Sekyere has been named one of Vanderbilt University's top 20 graduating seniors. The honor calls out the senior who "best represents Vanderbilt as a student leader," according to University publications.

Eno is a double major at Vanderbilt studying Child Development and Medicine, Health, and Society. She will graduate in May.

While at school she has shown amazing leadership as the president of the L.I.F.E. Project, Worship committee leader, vice-president of Zion's Inspirations, house president and has earned other awards and recognition.

Eno is the daughter of Ernest and Elizabeth Anane-Sekyere.

Eno's siblings are also accomplished:

**Agya Anane-Sekyere** - Graduated from Prairie View A&M with a bachelor's in Civil and Environmental Engineering. Currently works with the state of Texas as an Engineer.

**Nana Sekyere** - Currently a junior at Baylor University majoring in Biology.

**Kofi Anane-Sekyere** - Currently a senior at Westside High School and is applying for college.



*Eno Sekyere*

# Adult Ministry

## Better Bunch

Come join us for the start of a new year. Better Bunch trip this month will be on Thursday, January 20. We will leave the church at 8:30 am to go see "The Heart Truth's Red Dress Collection and First Ladies Red Dress Collection" at the George Bush Library and have lunch at the Cotton Patch Café. Cost for the trip is \$7.00 plus lunch. There is a discount if we have 20 or more, so shake the bushes and get your friends and family to join us. The exhibit also brings awareness to heart disease and its prevention.

Sign up form will be in the Gathering Space or contact Barbara Buckley at 281.498.0483 or wtuckley@juno.com.

Future dates are Thursdays, February 10 and March 10.

## TGIF

No January TGIF. Our next TGIF will be February 4 at the home of Sue and Keith Cox. The Buckleys will co-host.

## Men's Breakfast

Calling all men of the church. Join us Saturday, January 8 in the Fellowship Hall for our Men's Breakfast. For more information contact Keith Cox.

## Parents' Night Out

Bring your children to the Fellowship Hall, Friday, January 28. Children ages 3½ through 5th grade are welcome. For more information contact Sue Cox or Barbara Buckley.

## Wednesday Night Dinner

Join us each Wednesday evening for dinner in the Fellowship Hall. Enjoy an evening meal with your church family and friends.

## Presbyterian Women's Group

The Presbyterian Women's Group will meet Tuesday, January 11 at 9:30am to study Horizons: Journeys Through Revelation- Apocalyptic Hope for Today; Lesson 5. Meet us in West Wing room 1. If you have any questions please contact Burnette Boyett at 713-668-8848.

## Tuesday Night Women's Bible Study

The Tuesday Women's Study & Prayer Group meets each Tuesday from 5:30pm-7pm in West Wing room 5. For more information contact Janette Hearne at janettehearne@gmail.com.

## Day Literature Circle

The Day Literature Circle meets on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 10:30am in West Wing room 1. Join us January 18 to discuss *Armadillo - A Novel* by William Boyd. For information contact Doris Neville @gordon-neville@att.net.

## The Lydia Circle

Lydia's Circle book club meets on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 10am in private homes of circle members. This month the meeting will be January 18 to discuss *Blessing* by Anna Quindlen. The meeting will be hosted by Clara Welsh. The reviewer will be Bitsy Carnell. For more information please contact Jo Chelf at HJChelf@sbcglobal.net.

## Ladies' Book Club

The Ladies' Book Club meets the 4th Tuesday of the month at 7pm. Join us on January 25 when we will discuss *Wish You Well* by David Baldacci. If you have any questions, please contact Lucy Seward at lucyseward@msn.com or Mylene Bole at mbole@swbell.net.

## Friday Night Bridge

Friday Night Bridge is back. Join us Friday, January 21 at the home of Keith and Sue Cox. Contact Sue for more information.

## *To the Church Triumphant*

*"Death is swallowed up in victory ... Thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ." -- 1 Cor. 15:54-57*

Nelson Bourn died suddenly on January 1, 2011. He and his wife Shanna, along with their children Denise, Becky and Kyle were members at Braeburn Presbyterian in the early years. His funeral was held at Second Baptist Church, 19449 Katy Freeway @ Fry Road on Thursday, January 7.

**2011 Session**  
*ChristChurch Presbyterian*

**Class of 2011**

John Becker, Amy Gremillion,  
Priscilla Kennedy, Woody Speer,  
Roger Tucker, Craig Wooten

**Class of 2012**

Homer Borgstedte, Sue Cox,  
Brad Eaves, Aileen Fleming, Karen  
Persely

**Class of 2013**

Richard Bell, Mylene Bole, Fred  
Cook, Anne Reed, Gretchen Sparks  
Youth Elders: Matthew Bole,  
Lubna Obou

**Clerk of Session**

Janice Schessler

**Moderator**

Rev. John Hirling

**CCP Good News Contributors**

Barbara Buckley, Sue Cox, Aileen  
Fleming, Liz Gentry, John Hirling,  
Priscilla Kennedy, Dorothy Mares  
and Anne Reed

Editors: Aileen Fleming and  
Priscilla Kennedy

# Christian Education

## *Pre-school to High School*

### *Sunday School*

Children's Sunday School (pre-school through high school) is held every Sunday at 9am on the second floor of the education building. Senior high kids will meet in room 211 at the end of the hall, the new junior high class will meet in room 222 (the Games room, which adjoins the senior high room), and pre-K through 5th grade will meet this week in room 205 (Thou Art room).

**Pre-school to 5th Grade**

**Where:** Education Bldg. Room 205

**Middle School**

**Where:** Education Bldg. Room 222

**High School**

**Where:** Education Bldg. Room 211

## *Adult Sunday School*

### **Wired Word**

Utilizing an internet based curriculum that focuses on a weekly news headline with related Scriptures followed by discussion questions. Even if you are not wired, arrangements for receiving the study will be made.

**Where:** West Wing, Room 6

**When:** Every Sunday at 9am

**Teacher:** Fred Cook

### **Women's Bible Study**

Join us as we discuss the Book of Romans. We read and discuss verse by verse. It doesn't matter which Bible you choose, we love to discuss all versions. On completion of the Book of Romans we will choose another book.

**Where:** West Wing, Room 5

**When:** Every Sunday at 9am

**Teacher:** Burnette Boyett

### **Mental Gymnastics**

#### **The Voice New Testament and annotated Bible**

Previously most Bibles and biblical reference works were produced by professional scholars writing in academic settings. The Voice uniquely represents collaboration among scholars, pastors, writers, musicians, poets, and other artists. The goal is to help believers experience the joy and wonder of God's revelation instead of furthering the division over culture and theology. Writers include Chris Seay, Lauren Winner, Brian McLaren, Greg Garrett, David B. Capes, and others. This class currently studying the Book of Acts.

**Where:** West Wing, Room 1

**When:** Every Sunday at 9am

**Teacher:** Homer Borgstedte

# Blake Alexander

## Former CDC Student Practices Piano at ChristChurch

Blake Alexander, 18, is thrilled to practice piano several times a week in the West Wing of ChristChurch. The Bellaire High School junior isn't active in sports or other high school extra-curricular activities, just piano. Without the support of ChristChurch, Blake, who is autistic and has other disabilities, would not have a place to practice.

Blake's mother, Anna Cola, is also grateful that the church lets Blake practice the piano whenever he can. So much so that she sent the following letter to tell us about Blake.



Anna Cola and her son Blake Alexander

*Hello. My son, Blake Alexander, is a former student of the ChristChurch Presbyterian Child Development Center. He is a piano student studying under the guidance of Matthew Gonzales. His future goal is to play the piano for residents of care centers and group homes. We appreciate the church's generosity in allowing him the opportunity to practice the piano in the West Wing. Thank you.*

## January Birthdays

Pamela Lemoine	1	Anne Reed	15
Betty Harrison	1	Gayle Wooten	15
Buttrus Jok	1	Kim Gribble	19
Dijo Deng Jok	1	Doris Hibbard	20
Deborah Jok	1	Ernie Seward	21
Joseph Kegi	1	Rollo Hopkins	25
Martha Dawud Kegi	1	Hank Simons	25
Ruben Thuc Lual	1	Mireille Tchikou	25
Edmund Masango	1	Charles Mullins	26
Joseph Popeh	1		
Joyce Tchikou	1		
Lowell Heinz	4		
Katherine Cagney	8		
Gary Schessler	8		
Kevin Maher	9		
Jim Alkek	10		
Bitsy Carnell	10		
Ayoub Obou	10		
Lois Helm	11		
Bill Sparks	14		
Suzanne Carreker	15		



CHRISTCHURCH  
Presbyterian

Good News is a monthly publication of ChristChurch Presbyterian, and is sent to members, visitors, and friends.

**POSTMASTER:** Send changes of address to:

ChristChurch Presbyterian  
5001 Bellaire Boulevard  
Bellaire, TX 77401

Bulk mail postage paid at Bellaire, TX  
USPS #105.

All articles for submission should be sent to churchadmin@ccpres.org. Issue deadlines are the 20th of the month.

All material is subject to editing for space and content; every effort will be made to include all articles.

### STAFF DIRECTORY

#### John Hirling

Interim Pastor  
jhirling@ccpres.org

#### Drew Harrison

Director of Youth and  
Christian Formation  
dharrison@ccpres.org

#### Sondra Tucker

Director of Music  
stucker@ccpres.org

#### Linda Weise

CDC Director  
lweise@ccpres.org

#### Diana Lee

Financial Administrator  
dlee@ccpres.org

#### Dorothy Mares

Office Administrator  
dmares@ccpres.org

#### Church Office

Phone 713-667-6574  
Fax 713-667-6583

#### Child Development Center (CDC)

713-668-9869

#### VIC-SW

Volunteer Interfaith  
Caregivers SW  
713-772-8181

#### Website

www.ccpres.org

#### Presbytery of New Covenant

713-526-2585  
www.pbyofnewcovenant.org

# St. Giles Presbyterian Food Pantry -- A Mission for Us

St. Giles Presbyterian Church supports more than 300 people a month through its food pantry program. Many of those individuals are elderly on fixed incomes with no other means of support.

The food pantry is unique in that it offers fresh produce and meat.

Over the past several months, ChristChurch has donated \$1,000, from Mission Committee and garage sale proceeds, to purchase fresh produce and meat. Elders Liz Gentry and Sue Cox have also visited the facilities and helped clean and organize.

If you would like to help out, please contact Liz Gentry or Sue Cox. They would like to keep this mission alive at ChristChurch.



St. Giles Presbyterian Church

CHRISTCHURCH *Presbyterian*  
5001 Bellaire Boulevard  
Bellaire, TX 77401

**Address Service Requested**

Non-Profit  
Organization  
US Postage  
PAID  
Bellaire Tx  
Permit #105

**Join us on Sunday!**  
*Christian Education 9:00 am*  
*Worship 10:15 am*

Address Label