

# The Spire

## United Church of Penacook

American Baptist Churches of Vermont/New Hampshire  
United Church of Christ of New Hampshire

21 Merrimack Street  
Penacook, NH 03303

Disability Accessible

### December 2011

#### Christmas Celebrations

The Diaconate plans to decorate the Sanctuary the weekend after Thanksgiving so we can enjoy it throughout December.

The schedule for Christmas services have been announced. A Christmas Eve service at 6:30 pm will include a special play. In addition, the children will be invited to bring presents for Jesus to place under a tree at the front of the Sanctuary. A suggested gift list will be provided in a Spire supplement in mid-December; it will include many practical items needed at the church.



Christmas Day falls on Sunday and the worship service will follow the 10:30 am schedule.

#### A Few Good Souls

The Nominating Committee is still looking for a "few good souls" interested in helping this Church be all God wants it to be. If interested in helping on a committee, please see Ethel Furlong or Donna Rae Whitcher.

#### Mission Elves

By application deadline, 10 families, with a total of 28 children, had signed up for the Christmas Gifts Program.

Tags are on the Christmas tree dis-

played in the Narthex. Gifts are due back by Sunday, December 11. Gift pick-up is scheduled for Sunday, December 18 and Tuesday, December 20.

Based on the questions from the newest Missions member, some reminders are in order:

1. Presents should not be wrapped so parents can see what their children will be getting.
2. Supplies like wrapping paper and tape are welcomed to help out. parents
3. Each child gets three gifts. When you take a tag, it lists just one item. If you experience a sudden wave of Christmas joy and want to add a few extras, go for it. If they ask for a winter hat, of course you can add a pair of mittens.
4. There are always a few unclaimed gift requests. A cash donation from the non-shoppers is a blessing so that Nancy P and her friend Carol can stretch each dollar with all those Christmas sales to get needed gifts.

#### Music for Christmas



The Bell Choir will perform during the December 18th worship service, directed by Bob Lyford.

Rhonda Houston is writing a special song to be performed during the holiday services.

#### Fellowship After Worship Service

Refreshments are being served in the Narthex after the worship service on Sundays. A sign up sheet is posted in the Narthex for those who are willing to take a date to provide something simple like cookies and juice.

#### Fifth Sunday Pot Luck

Continuing the food theme, the Diaconate is scheduling a Pot Luck meal after Sunday services on the fifth Sunday of the month starting in January.

Check your Spire calendar in January for announcements about these fifth Sunday meals when you can share both food and fellowship.

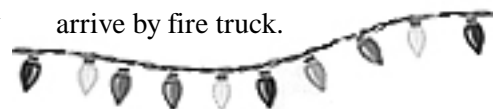


#### Penacook Tree Lighting

The Penacook Village Association has scheduled their Tree Lighting for Wednesday, November 30 at 6:00 pm at Boudreau Square.

The event will include carols led by the Blanchard family, songs by the Penacook Elementary School chorus, refreshments, and a train set display.

Rumor has it that Santa will arrive by fire truck.



**Membership Orientation**

A ten-week Membership Orientation is completed, and the United Church of Penacook has excellent prospects for new members!

**Church Structure Options**

The Council agreed that Rev. Lou George would be invited to address Council about options for Church structure as it applies to business matters. Interested members are encouraged to attend. A confirmed date will be announced as soon as possible.

**Insurance Information**

Anita Hanson, in her new capacity as Treasurer, reported that she has invited a representative from Utica Insurance to meet with anyone interested in asking questions about the Church insurance policy. A date for this presentation has not been determined.

**Birthdays**

- 12/06 Tracy Craigie
- 12/07 Robert Lyford
- 12/16 David Staples
- 12/22 Patricia Stearns
- 12/23 Nancy Brochu
- 12/23 Lillian Cilley
- 12/26 Virginia Mattice
- 12/31 David Anderson

**Food Pantry**

In October the Food Pantry served 44 families with a total of 122 people.

A \$1,000 donation was given to the Food Pantry by CCR Data Systems Inc.; a volunteer cook from the Open Door Community Kitchen works for this company.

Nancy Peperissa is sending a letter of information about the Food Pantry to another area business which has expressed interest in making a donation.

The Food Pantry is now receiving distributions of food year-round from the Capital Region Food Program. This will bolster the non-perishable food supply so that some cash donations can be re-directed to non-food offerings like shampoo and laundry soap.

Missions has received a letter from Concord Homeless Resource Center, which offers resource assistance in the Concord area, asking for a donation to their program. The Committee will consider making a donation to this organization, which also serves homeless people from Penacook, if there is money left in the Missions account after the children's Christmas gifts Program.

**Property Reports**

Property continues to wrestle with the many building concerns. After reviewing five estimates for snow-plowing and sanding the parking lots, they have signed a contract.

Arrangements have been made to pay Perley Smith to clear walkways and steps when it snows.

Property will be disposing of the older folding tables that are stored under the stage. Eventually they would like to start replacing the worn out folding chairs in Fellowship Hall.

**Reducing Heating Costs**

It is everybody's job to reduce spending at the Church. Now that it has turned colder, the choir has been meeting in Fellowship Hall rather than turning up the heat in the Sanctuary for Wednesday rehearsals. Thank you, Choir, for conserving fuel and saving money.

**Ushers Report**

- Oct.23 - 56
- Oct 30 - Snow!! No church
- Nov 6 - 60
- Nov 13 - 59



**Joy to the World, the Lord is come!**

**Share the joy.**

**Join us at Christmas**

**Christmas Eve - 6:30 pm**

**Christmas Day - 10:30 am**

**Holiday Fair Success**

The Women’s Guild Holiday Fair held in mid-November earned \$1250. The Craft group would like to thank all those who donated Christmas crafts and gift items and the always-popular baked goods that contributed to the success of the Fair.

More thanks go out to those who worked in the kitchen to serve soup and sandwiches at lunchtime. A special “thank you” goes to Connie LaRosa who played songs of the Christmas season enjoyed by visitors and workers alike. Hope you had a chance to tell Santa what you wanted for Christmas!

The Guild uses money raised at this event to assist the Pantry and Open Door Community Kitchen as well as provide the shipping costs to Missions for the school and health kits.

The Guild encourages you to join them at the Monday morning crafts sessions after they take a well-deserved break during the holidays. Contact Anne Mae Miller or Laurice Watterson if you have any questions.

**Treasurer’s Recommendations**

The following recommendations and motions were made by our new Treasurer, Anita Hanson, and approved by Council during the November meeting:

*Motion 1:* Ask the United Church Fund if the Investment Funds (Priscilla

Gage, M Wilson, S Wilson, and F Wilson) can be moved from a Moderate Balanced Fund to a more Conservative status. The motion was passed unanimously.

Council recommended that the Treasurer contact the manager of ABC Wealth Management funds to discuss moving the Lula Gray Clock and Steeple Fund and the Marshall/Watts Disability Fund to an account that makes money instead of losing it.

*Motion 2:* To pay \$300.00 of the \$500 budgeted to the ABC for Association dues. UCC NH has already received \$589.00. The motion was passed.

*Motion 3:* Take \$500.00 from the Property Committee 2011 budget to finish paying for 2011 snow removal, and \$200.00 for the purchase of cleaning supplies for the bathrooms. The motion was passed.

As much as possible, a "spending freeze" has been recommended to the Property Committee. The committee should approach Council if monetary needs arise.

**Budget in the Works**

The primary task of the November Council meeting was preparing the 2012 Church Budget to be voted on at the Annual Meeting. The Council went over each line item that committees recommended and made a few changes.

*Motion 4:* That the 2012 Budget prepared by Council be taken to the Church for approval at its Annual Meeting, December 11, 2011. This motion was passed. The proposed budget is included in this Spire so that members have an opportunity to review it before the Annual Meeting.

**Diaconate Contact List**

Please take a few minutes to send a note or make a call to the following:

Alta Bolduc, 35 Abbott Rd, Penacook 03303; 603-753-8917

Eunice Clark, 125 King St, Sunrise Assisted Living, Rm 224, Cohasset, MA 02025, 781-383-4397

Agnes Marshall, 152 North Main St, Boscawen 03303; 603-753-4008

Marjorie Rolfe, 26 Penacook St, Penacook 03303; 603-753-6715

**Transition Team**

The Transition Team of Tracy Craigue, Chair, Ethel Furlong, and Mark Thompson, spent many hours preparing the Pastor’s contract for 2012. It is dependent on approval of the Budget at the Annual Meeting.

**Bookkeeper**

Jean Lawrie, a Quickbooks Professional Advisor, has sorted out the accounts for 2011 and prepared a statement on the Special Funds (see page 6) as well as a report on the Cash Flow (see page 4-5).

CALL TO THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE UNITED CHURCH OF PENACOOK      DECEMBER 11, 2011

1. TO APPROVE THE SLATE OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS FOR 2012 AS PROPOSED BY THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE.
2. TO ACT UPON THE PROPOSED 2012 BUDGET RECOMMENDED BY THE CHURCH COUNCIL.
3. TO ACT UPON ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT SHALL LEGALLY COME BEFORE THIS MEETING.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED;  
DONNA RAE WHITCHER, CLERK

| <b>BUDGET 2012</b>             |                               |                   |                 |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| NAME OF CATEGORY               |                               |                   |                 |
| <b>INCOME</b>                  |                               |                   |                 |
| RENTAL                         |                               |                   | \$1,000         |
| DONATIONS                      |                               |                   | \$5,000         |
| FUNDRAISERS                    |                               |                   | \$5,000         |
| DIVIDENDS                      |                               |                   | \$3,500         |
| FAITH PROMISE/OFFERING         |                               |                   | \$60,000        |
| OTHER                          | Prayer!!!                     |                   | \$6,670         |
| <b>TOTAL INCOME</b>            |                               |                   | <b>\$81,170</b> |
| <b>EXPENSES</b>                |                               |                   |                 |
| <b>OFFICE</b>                  |                               |                   |                 |
|                                | Postage                       |                   | \$250           |
|                                | Telephone/internet/voice mail |                   | \$1,300         |
|                                | Administrative Fees           |                   | \$150           |
|                                | Office Supplies               |                   | \$1,400         |
|                                | The Spire                     |                   | \$0             |
|                                | Web site                      |                   | \$0             |
|                                | Computer                      |                   | \$200           |
|                                | Other                         |                   | \$100           |
| <b>TOTAL OFFICE EXPENSES</b>   |                               |                   | <b>\$3,400</b>  |
| <b>PROPERTY</b>                |                               |                   |                 |
|                                | Snow removal, grounds         |                   | \$1,800         |
|                                | Upkeep/Repairs                |                   | \$3,000         |
|                                | Cleaning & bathroom supplies  |                   | \$600           |
|                                | Electricity & Security light  |                   | \$3,500         |
|                                | Water/sewer                   |                   | \$675           |
|                                | Gas                           |                   | \$6,500         |
|                                | Fire inspection               |                   | \$1,000         |
|                                | Insurance                     |                   | \$7,000         |
|                                | Other                         |                   | \$100           |
| <b>TOTAL PROPERTY EXPENSES</b> |                               |                   | <b>\$24,175</b> |
| <b>STAFF</b>                   | <b>PASTOR</b>                 |                   |                 |
|                                |                               | housing allotment | \$34,400        |
|                                |                               | Health ins        | \$8,885         |
|                                |                               | Travel            | \$700           |
|                                |                               | Prof exp          | \$1,200         |
|                                |                               | cell phone        | \$960           |
|                                | <b>ACCOMPANIST</b>            |                   | \$5,400         |
|                                | <b>SUB-ACCOMPANIST</b>        |                   | \$500           |
|                                | <b>PULPIT SUPPLY</b>          |                   | \$200           |
|                                | <b>BOOKKEEPER</b>             |                   | \$500           |
|                                | <b>OTHER</b>                  |                   | \$100           |
| <b>TOTAL STAFF EXPENSES</b>    |                               |                   | <b>\$52,845</b> |

| BUDGET 2012 Continued   |                  |  |          |
|-------------------------|------------------|--|----------|
| NAME OF CATEGORY        |                  |  |          |
| ASSOCIATION DUES        |                  |  |          |
|                         | ABC              |  | \$300    |
|                         | UCCNH & MERR ASS |  | \$300    |
|                         | OTHER            |  | \$100    |
| TOTAL DUES              |                  |  | \$700    |
| MINISTRIES              |                  |  |          |
| CHRISTIAN EDUCATION     |                  |  | \$0      |
| DIACONATE               |                  |  | \$0      |
| MUSIC                   |                  |  | \$50     |
| STEWARDSHIP             |                  |  | \$0      |
| FINANCE COMMITTEE       |                  |  | \$0      |
| NOMINATING              |                  |  | \$0      |
| TRANSITION TEAM/PRC     |                  |  | \$0      |
| HISTORIAN               |                  |  | \$0      |
| MISSIONS                |                  |  | \$0      |
| TOTAL MINISTRY EXPENSES |                  |  | \$50     |
| TOTAL EXPENSES          |                  |  | \$81,170 |



### Christmas Poinsettias

Christmas poinsettias can be ordered and paid for at: Marshall's Florist & Gifts, 151 King Street, Boscawen, 796-2272.

Marshall's will deliver all poinsettia orders to the Church.

**All orders are due by December 11.**

To be included in the bulletins for Christmas services, complete the following and return to Ethel Furlong:

Name of Giver: \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

Words to Include: \_\_\_\_\_

For more information, contact Ethel Furlong (753-6542).



| Name of Account     | Events/<br>weddings | Public<br>Suppers    | Missions                 | Christian Ed             | K&R Grant                | Attic insulation      |
|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| Balance Jan 2011    | \$0.00              | \$0.00               | \$108.47 balance 2010    | \$277.00                 | \$1,500.00               | \$10,000.00           |
| Income 2011         | \$565.00            | \$1,783.00 2 suppers | \$241.20 dividends       | \$236.00 cal sales       |                          | \$0.00                |
|                     |                     |                      | \$393.00 fundraiser      | \$604.50 auction         |                          |                       |
|                     |                     |                      |                          | \$20.00 par nt out       |                          |                       |
| Expenses 2011       | \$150.00 bldng sup  | \$559.42             | \$0.00                   | \$440.00 Sentinel/Tatham | \$907.95 comp            | \$6,264.00 insulation |
|                     |                     |                      |                          | \$77.90 Holiday supplies |                          | \$3,736.00 bathroom   |
|                     |                     |                      |                          | \$209.51 Book Club       |                          |                       |
|                     |                     |                      |                          | \$4.50 snacks            |                          |                       |
| <b>Net income</b>   | <b>\$415.00</b>     | <b>\$1,223.58</b>    | <b>\$634.20</b>          | <b>\$405.59</b>          | <b>\$592.05</b>          | <b>\$0.00</b>         |
| <b>Balance 2012</b> | <b>\$0.00 GF</b>    | <b>\$0.00 GF</b>     | <b>\$742.67 GF carry</b> | <b>\$405.59 GF carry</b> | <b>\$592.05 GF carry</b> | <b>\$0.00 close</b>   |

| Name of Account     | Bathroom            | Stained glass           | Steeple Fund             | Cap Im Fund              | M-W Disability        | Parsonage                |
|---------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| Balance Jan 2011    | \$8,010.27          | \$5,213.79              | \$4,896.62 Lula Gray     | \$11,530.54              | \$6,324.93            | \$149,900.00             |
| Income 2011         | \$3,736.00 attic    | \$5,630.05 claim        | \$1,100.00 Char Fund     | \$20.00                  | \$0.00                | \$0.00                   |
|                     | \$1,490.00 Marsh-W  |                         |                          |                          |                       |                          |
|                     | \$20.00 donation    |                         |                          |                          |                       |                          |
|                     | \$1,121.40 cap impr |                         |                          |                          |                       |                          |
|                     |                     |                         |                          |                          |                       |                          |
| Expenses 2011       | \$13,508.00 Senecal | \$588.00 Gran Glass     | \$0.00                   | \$280.97 sound sys       | \$1,490.00 Bathroom   | \$16,007.77 Closing      |
|                     | \$200.00 ADF        | \$2,235.00 Cline        |                          | \$1,121.40 bathroom      | \$59.68 Depreciat     | \$8,010.27 bathroom      |
|                     | \$370.80 baby chang | \$1,100.00 frame        |                          |                          |                       | \$5,213.79 stained glass |
|                     | \$227.50 Cap Alarm  |                         |                          |                          |                       | \$10,000.00 attic ins    |
|                     | \$71.40 access      |                         |                          |                          |                       | \$11,530.54 CIF          |
|                     |                     |                         |                          |                          |                       | \$4,000.00 Wiley units   |
|                     |                     |                         |                          |                          |                       | \$8,900.00 Westh mov     |
|                     |                     |                         |                          |                          |                       | \$23,750.00 Furnace      |
| <b>Net income</b>   | <b>\$0.00</b>       | <b>\$6,920.84 carry</b> | <b>\$5,956.79 carry</b>  | <b>\$10,148.17 carry</b> | <b>\$4,775.25</b>     | <b>\$62,487.00</b>       |
| <b>Balance 2012</b> | <b>\$0.00 close</b> | <b>\$6,920.84 MM</b>    | <b>\$5,656.79 MM/Inv</b> | <b>\$10,148.17 MM</b>    | <b>\$4,775.25 Inv</b> | <b>\$62,487.00 MM</b>    |

# December 2011

| Sunday  | Monday   | Tuesday   | Wednesday   | Thursday                  | Friday   | Saturday                                   |
|---|--|---|---|---------------------------|--|--|
|   |  |   | November 30<br>Penacook Tree Lighting<br>6:00 pm  | 1<br>6:00 pm Girl Scouts  | 2<br>4:30 pm Community Kitchen                               | 3  |
| 4 <b>Hanging of the Greens</b><br>9:00 am Sunday School<br>9:00 am Bible Study<br>9:30 am Choir practice<br>10:30 am Worship  | 5<br>4:30 pm Community Kitchen<br>Property Mtg | 6<br>9:30 am Food Pantry<br>10:00 am Lazy Kates Spinning Grp<br>6:30 pm Pack 83 Mtg<br>7:00 pm Boy Scouts | 7<br>3:00 pm Choir<br>4:30 pm Community Kitchen<br>6:15 pm TOPS weigh-in<br>7:00 pm TOPS meeting  | 8                         | 9<br>4:30 pm Community Kitchen<br>7:00 pm Cubs Scouts        | 10   |
| 11 <b>Proclamation Sunday</b><br>9:00 am Sunday School<br>9:00 am Bible Study<br>9:30 am Choir practice<br>10:30 am Worship<br>11:45 am <b>Annual Meeting</b><br>6:00 pm Bible Reading<br><b>Gifts for Kids Due</b><br><b>Poinsettia Orders Due</b> | 12<br>4:30 pm Community Kitchen                | 13<br>9:30 am Food Pantry<br>10:00 am ODCK Mtg<br>7:00 pm Boy Scouts                                      | 14<br>3:00 pm Choir<br>4:30 pm Community Kitchen<br>6:15 pm TOPS weigh-in<br>7:00 pm TOPS meeting | 15<br>6:00 pm Girl Scouts | 16<br>4:30 pm Community Kitchen<br><br><b>Spire Deadline</b> | 17   |
| 18 <b>Blessing of the Creche</b><br>9:00 am Sunday School<br>9:00 am Bible Study<br>9:30 am Choir practice<br>10:30 am Worship with Bell Choir<br><br>Gifts for Kids distribution   | 19<br>4:30 pm Community Kitchen                | 20<br>9:30 am Food Pantry<br><br>Gifts for Kids distribution  | 21<br>3:00 pm Choir<br>4:30 pm Community Kitchen<br>6:15 pm TOPS weigh-in<br>7:00 pm TOPS meeting | 22                        | 23<br>4:30 pm Community Kitchen                              | 24 <b>Christmas Eve</b><br>6:30 pm Worship |
| 25 <b>Christmas</b><br>10:30 am Worship<br><br>No Sunday School, Bible Study, or choir  | 26<br>4:30 pm Community Kitchen                | 27<br>9:30 am Food Pantry<br>7:00 pm Boy Scouts   | 28<br>3:00 pm Choir<br>4:30 pm Community Kitchen<br>6:15 pm TOPS weigh-in<br>7:00 pm TOPS meeting | 29                        | 30<br>4:30 pm Community Kitchen                              | 31 <b>New Year's Eve</b>                   |

Fellowship is immediately after the Worship Service in the Narthex