

THE COVENANT

November 2011

Volume 11, Issue 11

2012 Pledge Campaign Results

Holy Covenant is pleased to inform you of the results of the "Growing Together, Seeking God Together" pledge campaign for 2012. The campaign ended in October with 33 members and friends pledging a total of \$69,408.

"Growing Together, Seeking God Together" was Holy Covenant's first true pledge campaign. It was a planned campaign drawing on the talents of a committee as well as church members and friends featuring coordinated printed materials, testimonials given during services, and sermons relating to stewardship. Committee members included chair person Jill Walls, Board member Barbara Adams, and church member Brad Carlson.

The campaign represents a major improvement over the effort in 2009, which relied solely upon letters and pledge forms. In 2009, the pledge total was \$55,000, coming from 26 people. At that time, it was Holy Covenant's most successful annual pledge campaign.

As a result of "Growing Together, Seeking God Together," the Board of Directors completed its draft of the 2012 budget, which will be presented to the congregation and subject to the congregation's approval. The new budget will continue to fund a part-time administrative assistant.

Expenses for the preliminary 2012 budget total \$122,649, with a projected deficit of \$6,320. The budget for 2011 totaled \$117,137 and had a projected deficit of \$6,725. The increase in the 2012 budget was influenced by the success of the pledge campaign. Actual 2011 income and expense results through October will be included in the Board's presentation at the Congregational Meeting to be held on November 20th.

Santa's Helpers Needed

We are looking for Santa's helpers!!!! We will be passing out flyers in November for the Santa Breakfast on Saturday, December 10th.



There will be a *flyer pass-out pizza party* on Saturday, November 5th at 11:00 a.m. (in the church basement). While we enjoy our pizza, we'll discuss flyer distribution routes and also have a question/answer session for those interested in helping with the breakfast. There will be a sign-up sheet on the Pastor's office window, so we will know how many people will attend and to make sure that there will be enough pizza. Sign-up now and join us on November 5th.

If you have any questions, please contact Vic or Jess Rubino. Thank you in advance for helping to make our annual Santa Breakfast a fun and successful community event.

Congregational Meeting - Sunday, November 20th

On Sunday, November 20th, there will be one service at 10:00 a.m., with the annual Congregational Meeting to follow at 11:30 a.m. Please tell your friends and members of Holy Covenant, so people will not show up at 9:00 or 11:00 a.m. expecting a worship service.



Pastor's Corner



I Am Thankful For...

I am thankful for my Holy Covenant MCC family and the part they continue to play in my walk with Christ even though our distance is great.—*Tim Reeder*

I am thankful for my god as I understand him (higher power) and MCC being part of my life. Through MCC I have been able to learn and grow. Family, both relatives and non relatives that are in my life are important to my every day existence. Thank you all for being a part.—*Danny Jones*

I am thankful for being able to pray with people of like mind and choice of life style. To openly Be myself and not be judged by others.....to feel the love and caring that comes from Holy Covenant members really fills my life with great joy! I am thankful to have my Mother, 96 years old still living. I have been truly blessed and most thankful for what I have.

On Facebook a question was asked, "What if you woke up today with only the things you were thankful for yesterday", How would you feel?. My answer was, I would still be thankful.—*Laura C.*

I am thankful for my husband Andrew, my Holy Covenant and MCC family, and the daily peace of knowing that no matter what may happen God is with us and we all have everything we need if we just remember to think about it.—*Holly*

I am thankful for caring, sharing family and friends, and a good life with vision to enjoy God's beautiful nature.—*Jean*

I am thankful for laughter in my life, for the time I spend with friends, for having a job, for the food on my plate and roof over my head. I am thankful for the people who have come and gone in my life and the many lessons I have learned along the way. I am thankful for the parents who loved me and took care of me. I am thankful for my partner

Mary Ann, for Lisa and Donna, for our grandsons Kassius and Bryan who bring so much joy into a room. I am thankful for life and all it's ups and downs. I am thankful for my faith, church and God who has given me so many blessings in my life. I am life and I am Thankful!—*Barbara Adams*

I'm thankful for my husband, Richard, my family, friends, and colleagues. I am thankful for the gift of pastoring an open-minded, open-hearted congregation like Holy Covenant.—*Pastor Dan*

I would like to THANK YOU God for giving me life and health and happiness and Holy Covenant Church with Rev. Dr. Danny Spears who gave me faith in God and a home to worship. I also would like to add that I give Thanks to my parents who had me in this world and taught me how to be strong and open mind and kind. I give Thanks to God who gave me two beautiful children in my life and fill my heart with lots of love and joy everyday. I give thanks that I met my partner Sandy who makes me complete and full of love. There are a lot of things which we are all Thankful everyday in our life.

I give thanks to most valuable thing is He gives me life every morning. That is the best thing we can ask for and receive, and do good and make peace and be positive in our daily lives. Amen.—*Mary Agrusa*

In thanksgiving for the opportunity to live, learn, love for 65 years and for the challenge of continuing to explore, anticipate, and grow in wisdom, integrity, celebration of all life has to offer.—*Jean Takes*

I am thankful for my wife Stacey, my good friends in both England and here in the US, my next door neighbor Peg, my job at Holy Covenant and my greyhound Max.—*Ian Tiele*

Aging Care Connections is Seeking Volunteers

Aging Care Connections, La Grange, is seeking volunteers for front desk reception positions on Monday and Friday afternoons. The receptionist is responsible for receiving incoming calls and directing calls to the appropriate person or office. In addition, volunteers are needed to complete data entry any day, Monday through Friday, anytime between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. If you are interested, please contact Linda Hussey, community relations coordinator, at 708-354-1323, extension 242.

Harvest Dance - Saturday, November 5th



The Harvest Dance will be held on Saturday, November 5th, from 7:00 to 11:00 p.m. Come dance the night away with our live DJ and help Holy Covenant raise funds through the Services Auction. Halloween costumes are optional and always visually interesting. Food, wine and beer will be served. There is a suggested donation of \$10 at the door.

You can now check out the full list of services being auctioned **and** place your bids online at <http://www.holycovenantmcc.org/Services.html>

Congregational Forums - Sunday, November 13th

We will be holding two Congregational Forums on Sunday, November 13th; one from 10:15 to 10:45 a.m. and the second one from 12:15 to 12:45 p.m. The purpose of the forums is to give Members an opportunity to learn more about our candidates for the Board of Directors and to ask questions about the proposed 2012 budget.

Calling All Voices



Holy Covenant's Choir will resume weekly practices each Sunday at 10:15 a.m., starting Sunday, November 6th. Whether you are a current choir member or you just want to give your voice a try out, you're welcome to attend. For more information, please see Kelley Eckmayer.

Happy Thanksgiving!

November 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 AA Meeting 12:30 Yoga 7:00	2 AA Meeting 12:30	3 AA Meeting 12:30	4 AA Meetings 12:30 & 8:00	5 Santa Breakfast Planning 11:00 Harvest Dance 7:00
6 Worship 9:00/11:00 Sunday School 9:00 AA Meeting 6:00	7 AA Meeting 12:30 Revelation Class 7:00 Crazy Crafters 7:00	8 AA Meeting 12:30 Yoga 7:00	9 AA Meeting 12:30	10 AA Meeting 12:30 Grant Ford Reception 7:00	11 AA Meetings 12:30 & 8:00 Youth Group 4:00	12
13 Worship 9:00/11:00 Sunday School 9:00 Gong. Forums 10:15 & 12:15 AA Meeting 6:00	14 AA Meeting 12:30 Revelation Class 7:00 Crazy Crafters 7:00	15 AA Meeting 12:30 Yoga 7:00 Pilsen Outreach 7:00	16 AA Meeting 12:30	17 AA Meeting 12:30 BOD Meeting 7:00	18 AA Meetings 12:30 & 8:00	19
20 Worship 10:00 Cong. Meeting 11:30 AA Meeting 6:00	21 AA Meeting 12:30 Revelation Class 7:00 Crazy Crafters 7:00	22 AA Meeting 12:30 Yoga 7:00	23 AA Meeting 12:30	24 AA Meeting 12:30	25 AA Meetings 12:30 & 8:00 Youth Group 4:00	26
27 Worship 9:00/11:00 Sunday School 9:00 AA Meeting 6:00	28 AA Meeting 12:30 Crazy Crafters 7:00	29 AA Meeting 12:30 Yoga 7:00	30 AA Meeting 12:30	31 AA Meeting 12:30		

**HOLY
COVENANT MCC
CHURCH
BROOKFIELD, IL**

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Email: office@holycovenantmcc.org
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**We Accept
PayPal**

Use email address
donations@holycovenantmcc.org

*We celebrate Christ's call to:
Care for one another
Reach out to others
Explore our faith
Worship God*

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Danny Spears

Board of Directors:

Rev. Dr. Danny Spears, Mod.
Bruce Myers, Treasurer
Barb Adams, Vice Mod.
Greg Clark, Clerk
Jackie Thurston
Audrey Chmura

Church Musician:

Greg Petit

Social Action Ministry:

Karen Baribeault
Ross Lee

Covenant Editor/Admin Assistant:

Ian Tiele

November Prayer

Goodnight God.

I hope you are having
a good time being the world.
I like the world very much
I'm glad you made the plants
and trees survive with the
rain and summers.

When summer is nearly near
the leaves begin to fall.

I hope you have a good time
being the world.

I like how God feels around
everyone in the world.

God, I am very happy that
I live on you.

Your arms clasp around the world.

I like you and your friends.

Every time I open my eyes

I see the gleaming sun.

I like the animals - the deer,
and us creatures of the world,
the mammals.

I love my dear friends.
goodnight god -

[Danu Baxter - age 4 & 1/2]

Church Mice

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Covenant Publications

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The Covenant welcomes new items, articles, poetry, and of course suggestions. Written contributions may be submitted to the Editor of the Covenant at the address herein or by email to ian@holycovenantmcc.org Contributions will be published at the discretion of the editor and may be subject to revision and space limitations.

The December 2011 COVENANT DEADLINE for any articles is NO LATER THAN Monday, November 28th, 2011. Late submissions will be made on an "available space basis."