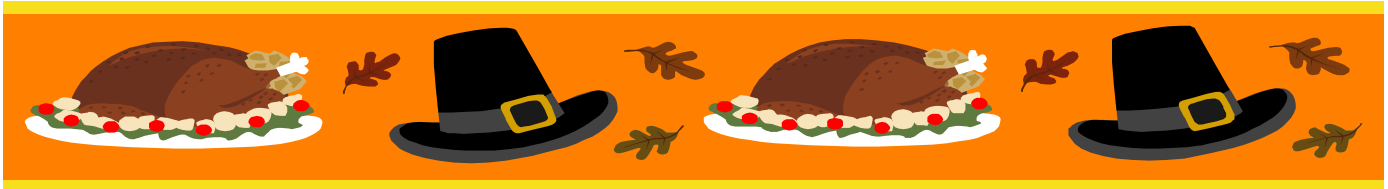


Glad Tidings

GLADING MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
1267 E. Cheltenham Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19124
Andrew H. Mann, Jr., D.Min, Pastor
Kenneth L. Goodrich II, Pastoral Assistant
Laszlo Ujj, Hungarian Pastor
Warren E. Norden, Organist/Director of Music
Glenn Smith, Clerk of Session; Dan Berger, Treasurer
Lydia Berger, Editor
Telephone: 215-533-2572, 215-744-9739
Web Address: GladingMemorial.com



FALL/WINTER

2010



“...an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.”

Impossible dreams.

This whole season is about impossible dreams.

When Joseph heard that Mary was pregnant, he knew it was not his baby. He was a good man, so he was hardly prepared for that. Mary had seemed so lovely, and so innocent. And now this. What was he to do? What was he to think? All of *his* dreams lay in ruins.

Being a merciful man, he did what his friends likely called him a fool for doing and that was to quietly and mercifully put her away and to end the relationship. It was his full right to have her put to death, for adultery by a woman was a crime punishable by death by public stoning. Brokenhearted, Joseph just decided to end the engagement. Quietly.

After deciding how to handle this awful news, he laid his head down to a sleep that came only fitfully. It was then that he had this dream. Something about the Holy Spirit and that the child was actually to be the Son of God. Mary had not committed adultery as he and everyone had assumed, but instead she had been overshadowed by the Spirit of God. Almost as hard to believe, Joseph was told that

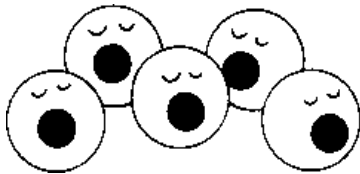
this child, this extraordinary child, would change the world. It was an impossible dream. Ridicules. No one could believe such a thing, that the world could be changed by a little child.

But Joseph believed the impossible dream revealed the truth. He believed that what seemed impossible was, in fact, going to come to pass. It turns out that he was right. The impossible dream was not impossible at all; the Child changed everything. It was not impossible after all.

Well, the story is ours now. We have heard it once more. It is no longer Joseph's impossible dream. It is *our* impossible dream. The ball is in *our* court now. When we wake from the dream of bright lights, soft candle glow, familiar traditions, the Old Story, and lovely carols, what will our response be? Do we believe the dream, that his world and our lives, can be different? Because of this Child? Or do we quietly resolve to put it away as a wistfully beautiful but empty tale?

A Child is born. Everything changes because of it. Truth? Or impossible dream? Believe it? Or not?

It is your dream now.



Our choir is busy preparing Advent and Christmas anthems featuring many interesting and tuneful compositions. During the Christmas Eve service the choir will perform an exciting "Gloria in Excelsis Deo" accompanied by Jim McHale, our percussionist. Please note our service will begin at 5:30 PM.

Happy Anniversary

Warren and Josie Norden	11/18	Glenn and Edie Smith	12/28
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FOR NOVEMBER, DECEMBER, JANUARY, FEBRUARY AND MARCH

Sandra Lindsey	11/23	Warren Norden	1/5
Jane Rabel	11/23	Jennifer Kiefer Quinn	1/23
Lydia Eleanor Berger	11/24	Jean Smith	2/1
Marty Bockhorn	11/27	Evelyn Jarrett	2/6
Ken Wells	12/5	John Bauerle, Sr.	2/14
Walter Dean	12/8	Bill Smith	2/24
Lois Wanushek	12/20	Bob Dott	3/1
Haley Armstrong	12/21	Audrey Hopkins	3/2
Brian Smith	12/27	Alicia Kiefer	3/3
Anna Morrison	12/31	Ceil Beer	3/15

If you would like your birthday or anniversary listed in the *Glad Tidings* please pass the information on to Lydia Berger.



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Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ:

On Sunday, November 21, we will observe Stewardship Sunday in worship. Let me remind you that when we focus on the stewardship of our money that we not look at the budgets of the church, or the heat bills, or the building's condition, or anything else that we often associate with the *why* of giving to the church. To be perfectly honest, the Bible never uses those things to explain the *why* of giving. In fact, we are not to give to the church. Instead, the Bible says that we are to give to God. That is *why* we give, and to Whom.

Giving and tithing (the Bible defines *tithing* as the giving of 10% of one's income to God) is language that does not attach to mundane objects in the church. The Bible tells us that the main reason we give to God is out of gratitude for all God has done for us. If we do not give cheerfully, out of gratitude to God, then we miss the point of giving entirely.

We are also invited to give to God for our own good: to grow spiritually. In a selfish world, real giving is an act of denying oneself for another. Children give to their parents out of gratitude for what their parents have given them. In the same way, we give to God for the many blessings that have been showered upon us by God's generous hand. And in showing that same gratitude by sacrificial giving, we learn better how to put God first in our life. This is how we use one of the most powerful means of spiritual growth: increasing the *proportion* of our income that we give to God every year.

Soon after receiving this letter in the *Glad Tidings*, those who covenanted to God to give during 2010 will receive their Covenant Cards in the mail. They have been before us every Sunday this year in worship as a reminder of the sacred covenants we have made. No one knows the content of those covenants. Only God and we know that. You will receive the Covenant Cards as a reminder of what was promised and where we as an individual stand with that promise.

As in previous years, no one will ever know what you covenant to give to God during 2011. Your 2010 Covenant Cards for pledging will be sent to you during the week of November 22. Bring them with you on Covenant Sunday on November 28 to be dedicated during worship. The Covenant Cards will be kept secure here, ***unopened and unread***. They will be before us during worship in 2011. Only you and God will know what you have promised. Those cards will be returned to you in the fall of 2011 as a reminder of your covenant and as a tool for you to measure your spiritual growth with God.

As you consider your covenant with God for 2011, remember that it is not the *amount of money*, but our *depth of commitment* to the Lord that is the issue. Jesus said as much when He celebrated the widow's pence over the gifts of the wealthy (Mark 12: 41 - 44). Do we give from the heart, or do we give to the Lord what are the table scraps of our lives? Decide what you will give to God in 2011 with your heart.

In Christ,
DREW

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES for 2010

Worship & Activities

- Nov 14 First Sunday of the Angel Tree
- Nov. 21 11:00 Worship
- Nov. 28 11:00 Worship: First Sunday of Advent
12:15 Luncheon & Carol Sing
- Dec. 4 9:00 Hanging of the Greens (Saturday)
- Dec. 5 11:00 Worship and Communion
 Angel Tree gifts due back, BY NOON
- Dec. 12 11:00 Worship
12:30 Soup Lunch, Hungarian Desserts &
 Christmas Movie
- Dec. 19 11:00 Christmas Sunday Worship
- Dec. 21 7:30 Service of the Longest Night (Tuesday)
- Dec. 24 5:30 Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
- Dec. 26 11:00 Worship at the brink of the New Year
- Jan. 2 11:00 Worship, Communion and the
 Remembrance of the Saints



Ghost Writer

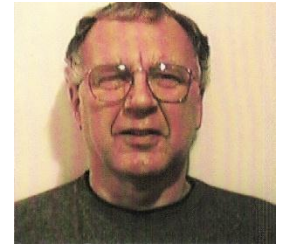
The deadline for this Glad Tidings was November 1. My brain was frozen, I could think of nothing to write. The treasurer gleefully told me of all the things he was covering in his article, the minister proudly announced at the session meeting that he had e-mailed all his contributions to me and still I saw a blank page in front of me. As Shakespeare says in the movie *Shakespeare in Love* when he goes to see Dr. Moth, apothecary/chemist/astrologer—"It's as if my quill is broken, the organ of my imagination is dried up...it's like trying to pick a lock with a wet herring!" I decided that I needed a break and printed out the flyer for half priced tickets from Funsavers. It's a great way for seniors to find out what's playing at the local theatres, concert halls and other activities in and around Philadelphia. The dates are within a couple of days so you have to be pretty flexible to take advantage of the reduced rates. I picked a new play entitled *Ghost Writer* by Michael Hollinger(not to be confused with a recent movie of the same name). There are four characters; the typist, the writer, his wife and the audience. The typist has worked with the writer for so long that she can frequently finish his sentences before he can dictate them to her. So when it is flowing she types very fast. But, she indicates that a more important quality for her is patience because there are many times that the words don't come easily. She works in an apartment he has bought to be away from the distractions at his home. He dies suddenly and she is left with an unfinished novel. She decides to finish the work and we see how she struggles with that. I remember one day long ago I was home alone with Lydia. I decided to write something using the *stream of consciousness* technique where you basically just write whatever comes into your head. I wrote four handwritten pages noting every time I was interrupted by Lydia. Gee, only 15 times. It was then that I knew that no matter how much I liked writing I would never write the great American novel because I am just too busy living my own amazing life and I like it that way. The Ghost Writer says at the end of the play, "I suppose that will do for now."

Checkout Funsavers at Funsavers@Phillyfunguide.com. They will e-mail you once a week with their list of half-priced tickets.

A closed mouth gathers no feet (church sign)

All eyes were on the radiant bride as her father escorted her down the aisle. They reached the altar and the waiting groom; the bride kissed her father and placed something in his hand. The guests in the front pews responded with ripples of laughter. Even the priest smiled broadly. As her father gave her away in marriage, the bride gave him back his credit card.

From Your Treasurer...I'm a torn individual in many ways. Why so torn, do you ask? What do you do when you are running an operating deficit of nearly forty thousand dollars and yet operating income is up by over nine thousand dollars between this and last year? We are now in the fourth quarter of our accounting year. Historically, the fourth quarter is the only period where we bring in more money than we spend. It is with this hope that I am praying we can close this deficit gap. I'm looking at two more gas bills for the year, one smallish bill in the hundreds before we start the heating season with the thousands of dollars per month to heat our buildings.



Continuing being a torn soul, two years ago we set the benevolent fund at \$5,500. We came in at about \$4,600 so all our agencies were pro-rated less money. With this in mind I suggested a budget of \$3,500 for this year. So far this year, and we are only through October, you have contributed \$4,700 to benevolence. This means that everyone will be pro-rated more as a benevolent of Glading, and this does **not** include the over \$1,000 for Haitian relief. Well done, well done everyone.

Still being torn and I touched on this the last time. Our Pastor's Discretionary Fund (PDF) is really hurting. There is only about fifty bucks remaining for expenditures. Do I suggest that we stopping giving to the benevolent fund and redirect contributions to the operating and/ or PDF? Yours truly does not decide what fund receives money. The money goes to whatever is marked on the envelope, note or check. My heart is always leaning to the operating fund until I see a surplus, but the final decision is yours.

Next year will be interesting for the **Glad Tidings**. There may be changes or there may not be changes depending on your input. I did some quick calculations and if you live in the 190 or 191 zip code it cost \$.342 to mail each piece. All other zips the cost is \$.402 per piece. I believe the postal rates will increase in January 2011 so that means our cost will increase. To get this special rate you need a permit, need to go to the distribution center at the airport and have a minimum of 200 pieces. The last time I did the mailing I asked how much it would cost to send one issue of the **Glad Tidings** first class and the answer was \$.55. These amounts are only postage. It does not include the cost of paper, computer ink and labor to fold and seal multiple pages. Now here is where the wheels are turning. The **Glad Tidings** is posted to Glading's web page at gladingmemorial.com. Access is free. If you don't have a computer and you come to church, just pick up your copy. No computer and unable to attend, just drop us a note and we will gladly mail one first class. I have one more trick and it is called a "message blast". We currently have names and phone numbers. We record a message and with a few key strokes the computer calls the people on our list. Not on our current call list and want to be? Give us a call or drop us a note asking to be added.

I was thinking of setting up a **Glad Tidings** message blast list to let people know there is a new issue on our web page. This way if you can't make it to church at least you will know a new issue is ready for enjoyment.

Let me know what you think of these ideas for the *Glad Tidings*. Do you have any suggestions?

We are currently getting ready to update our phone directory and we are asking for your e-mail address. This can be a great tool to notify our membership and friends of events at Glading. The last directory is so old it has the wrong web address for Glading on the cover so be careful. Please use the address gladingmemorial.com.

I was hoping that someone out there in Gladingland would have a little refrigerator that we could put in room 2. (We have a room 2?) Thanks to the Butch and Sue Byer we now have a refig next to the coffee maker. Now maybe I can channel someone about a new handicap accessible back door to Glading.

Room 2? Yes it has probably been there for eighty years. It even says so on the door. Everyone calls the space the overflow room. With the curtains open it makes a nice gathering place after worship, especially for coffee after communion. No more walking down two flights of stairs and one flight up to leave. We have the refig, coffee, tables, chairs and a beautiful stained glass window to enjoy the fellowship.

If you close the curtains, room 2 is a nice cozy place for meetings. The 10 AM Wednesday Bible class, lead by Rev. Mann, meets there. We are going to see how it works out during the winter. Lydia and I get to church about 9 AM, I have an unused heater from home that I will turn on and we will see if room 2 gets and stays warm.

There is no resolution to our insurance claim for the education building but this doesn't mean we stand still. Since 1961 the building has settled which causes a lake to form on one half of the roof. We had a new roof drain installed traversing half the building width that taps into an existing drain. The two existing drain openings were the size of a standard downspout where you would put in one of those little leaf catchers. These were enlarged to six inch drains with a dome over each drain to stop leaves, etc. Still on the roof, the two bathroom vents that were flush with the roof - one had a birds nest that Glenn cleaned out - are now exhausted with a two feet capped chimney vent. And you wonder why we have a deficit. Now all we have to do is keep the neighborhood kids off the roof.

For most of my career with Amtrak I was in the finance department. For twenty of those years I was the collection person. Yes, you owe money; I want it; that was me. There is some psychology involved. In writing, the last thing read is usually the first thing remembered. Let me leave you with the following.

Our annual apportionment for the presbytery is about \$2,000. So far we have \$600. Did you send in your \$20.75? If not, please mail your \$20.75 today.

FROM EVELYN JARRETT:

My thanks go to everyone at Glading for their many thoughts and prayers for Al and me. Please continue to pray for the many changes in my life and especially in dealing with the pain of missing my loving husband.



The Mann Funeral Home, Inc. has arranged to have a young tree planted through the Lofty Oaks Association in memory of Alvin E. Jarrett. This is part of a large endeavor to restore the Pennsylvania landscape with the eternal beauty of living trees for the benefit of all the residents of the state. Lofty Oaks would like to extend their condolences to the friends of Alvin E. Jarrett, along with the staff of Mann Funeral Home, Inc., who have provided this living memorial.



Hungarian Worship Community at Glading Memorial Church

Kedves Magyar Testvérek -- Egyházunk 2010 őszi/Karácsonyi programja:

Erzsébet-Katalin ünnep, Nov. 14, 2 órákor

Kavé/uzsonna lesz Isten tiszteletünk d.u. kettő órákor (2 p.m.) után, tisztelni szeretett Erzsébet-Katalin testvéreket. (Special birthday coffee social, Nov. 18, 2 pm)

December Sütemény/Kávé; December 12, 12 órákor

D.e. tizenkettő órákor (12 noon) tartjuk az évi együttes Magyar/Angol December Sütemény/Kávé melyre Angol nyelvű testvérek könnyű ebéddel várnak mihez Magyar Süteményel járulunk hozzá.- Isten tiszteletünk kettő óra harminc perckor (2:30 p.m.) Advent-re. Helyet foglalni nem kell, hozzuk családot, szeretteinket, barátokat; mindenkit várunk!

This is a special season-warming event. Please bring family and friends for fun and friendship!

Karácsonyi program, December 26, 2 órákor (alternative Januar 2):

Az Ur Szent Asztala terítve vár minket **Karácsony** előtt való Vasárnapján, d.u. kettő órákor (2 p.m.) a szentélyben, Magyar nyelvű Isten tiszteletünkben –útunk Jézus felé vezet, mint a 3 bölcsé! Utánna rövid Karácsony-i műsor ebéddel! Várunk örömmel.

Christmas Worship Service with Holy Communion and our annual Christmas program/Luncheon, December 26 at 2 p.m.

Special Christmas Prayers for our families with Baptized babies this fall:

Turcsány család

Palotay család



HOLIDAY FUN FACTS

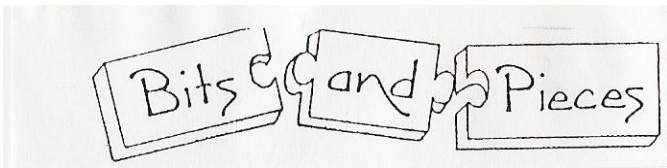
Tinsel- From the French word entincelle, meaning to “sparkle”

Wassail- From the Olde English word o waes hael, meaning good health

Deck- From the Middle Dutch word, deken, meaning to cover

Dashing(through the snow)- Comes from Middle English daschen, meaning to strike, as to strike a whip

Electric Light/Bulbs- In 1895, as candles dried trees and caused fires, Ralph Morris of New England Telephone and Telegraph fashioned strings of lights from telephone switchboard bulbs



Stuff you didn't know you didn't know!

In the 1400's a law was set forth in England that a man was allowed to beat his wife with a stick no thicker than his thumb. Hence we have 'the rule of thumb'

Many years ago in Scotland , a new game was invented. It was ruled 'Gentlemen Only...Ladies Forbidden'.. .and thus, the word GOLF entered into the English language.

The first couple to be shown in bed together on prime time TV was Fred and Wilma Flintstone.

Every day more money is printed for Monopoly than the U.S. Treasury.

Men can read smaller print than women can; women can hear better.

Coca-Cola was originally green.

It is impossible to lick your elbow.

The State with the highest percentage of people who walk to work: Alaska

The percentage of Africa that is wilderness: 28% (now get this...) The percentage of North America that is wilderness: 38%

The cost of raising a medium-size dog to the age of eleven: \$ 16,400

The average number of people airborne over the U.S. in any given hour: 61,000

Intelligent people have more zinc and copper in their hair..

The first novel ever written on a typewriter, Tom Sawyer.

The San Francisco Cable cars are the only mobile National Monuments.

Each king in a deck of playing cards represents a great king from history: Spades - King David; Hearts – Charlemagne; Clubs -Alexander, the Great; Diamonds - Julius Caesar

$111,111,111 \times 111,111,111 = 12,345,678,987, 654,321$

If a statue in the park of a person on a horse has both front legs in the air, the person died in battle.
If the horse has one front leg in the air, the person died because of wounds received in battle.
If the horse has all four legs on the ground, the person died of natural causes.

Only two people signed the Declaration of Independence on July 4, John Hancock and Charles Thomson. Most of the rest signed on August 2, but the last signature wasn't added until 5 years later.

Q. Half of all Americans live within 50 miles of what?

A. Their birthplace

Q. Most boat owners name their boats. What is the most popular boat name requested?

A. Obsession

Q. If you were to spell out numbers, how far would you have to go until you would find the letter 'A'?

A. One thousand

Q. What do bulletproof vests, fire escapes, windshield wipers and laser printers have in common?

A. All were invented by women.

Q. What is the only food that doesn't spoil?

A. Honey

Q. Which day are there more collect calls than any other day of the year?

A. Father's Day

In Shakespeare's time, mattresses were secured on bed frames by ropes. When you pulled on the ropes, the mattress tightened, making the bed firmer to sleep on. Hence the phrase... 'Goodnight , sleep tight'

It was the accepted practice in Babylon 4,000 years ago that for a month after the wedding, the bride's father would supply his son-in-law with all the mead he could drink. Mead is a honey beer and because their calendar was lunar based, this period was called the honey month, which we know today as the honeymoon.

In English pubs, ale is ordered by pints and quarts... So in old England when customers got unruly, the bartender would yell at them 'Mind your pints and quarts, and settle down.' It's where we get the phrase 'mind your P's and Q's'

Many years ago in England , pub frequenters had a whistle baked into the rim, or handle, of their ceramic cups. When they needed a refill , they used the whistle to get some service. 'Wet your whistle' is the phrase inspired by this practice.

At least 75% of people who read this will try to lick their elbow.

DON'T TRY TO OUTSMART YOUR DAD

A teenage boy had just passed his driving test and inquired of his father as to when they could discuss his use of the car. His father said he'd make a deal with his son: 'You bring your grades up from a C to a B average, study your Bible a little, and get your hair cut. Then we'll talk about the car.' The boy thought about that for a moment, decided he'd settle for the offer, and they agreed on it. After about six weeks his father said, 'Son, you've brought your grades up and I've observed that you have been studying your Bible, but I'm disappointed you haven't had your hair cut. The boy said, 'You know, Dad, I've been thinking about that, and I've noticed in my studies of the Bible that Samson had long hair, John the Baptist had long hair, Moses had long hair...and there's even strong evidence that Jesus had long hair.' You're going to love the Dad's reply: To this his father replied, 'Did you also notice they walked everywhere they went?'

A Nativity Scene was erected in a church yard. During the night the folks came across this scene. An abandoned dog was looking for a comfortable, protected place to sleep. He chose baby Jesus as his comfort. No one had the heart to send him away so he was there all night. No one mentioned that the dog breed is a "shepherd!"



