

Good Day, Horton Bay

Horton Bay United Methodist Church

www.hortonbayumc.org

December 2010 & January 2011

Sharing the love of God so that all may continually grow as followers of Jesus Christ.

Pastor's Pondering

Have you made your Christmas wishlist? These lists tell others what we want for Christmas. While the thoughtfulness and love represented by gifts remains with us after we receive the gifts, often before long we are left with a feeling of "is this really all that Christmas was about?"

Our theme leading up to and including Christmas is "A Life-Giving Christmas"-helping each of us experience Christ being re-born in our lives through a deeper experience of the hope, peace, love and joy that Christ is.

Experiencing "A Life-Giving Christmas" requires us to change the normal way we travel through Christmas preparation. It requires us to alter our journey so that we are headed toward the star, toward the stable, toward Jesus. As you journey toward Christmas I have two suggestions to help you experience "A Life-Giving Christmas".

First, regularly spend time considering what hope, peace, love, and joy you desire to be born in you this Christmas. To put it another way, what would you write on your Christmas list under the categories of hope, peace, love, and joy? – NOT surface answers, but meaningful, soul-satisfying answers. Be in conversation with God daily about your new Christmas list.

Secondly, how can you practice hope, peace, love, and joy in the community you live in so that the hope, peace, love, and joy of Christ can be re-born in your community? Choose one way each week in which you can live these out.

Feel free to let me know how your journey toward Christmas is going. If you would like to have a conversation, let me know and we can sit down over a coffee or meal.

Pastor Tim

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A BIG THANK-YOU!

-to Sue Pepper for once again organizing the shoebox ministry and for all who participated! A total of 24 boxes was collected plus \$156 in cash. You have abundantly spread hope, peace, love, and joy.

-to Doris Robinson for donating the new Nativity set for all to enjoy! It looks great!

SUNDAY WORSHIP AT 10:30AM

Children's Church during Worship

Adult Study Sunday at 9:15AM & Wed. at 7:00PM

December Birthdays!

2 Carol Anderson

January Birthdays!

2 Jody Piper

- 6 Don Pepper
- 7 Steve W. Johnecheck
- 12 Gordon Koteskey
- 18 Madison Morgan
- 25 JESUS!
- 31 Brandon Babbitt

- 14 Marion Church
- 18 Christine Maskaluk
Allan Dhaseleer
- 21 Mary Jane Jewell
- 26 Suzie Frisk

December Anniversaries!

- 30 Ed & Ruth Chamberlain

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Good Advice Finding the Right Words

This is an article from the Dec. 2010 issue of *Good Housekeeping* by Val Walker which deals with coming up with the right words when trying to help someone with a particular issue. There are seven categories of issues; however, space this month only allows for three. Others will follow in subsequent issues.

Less Helpful

More Helpful

“BE STRONG”

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| “God doesn’t give you any more than you can handle.” | “It sounds like this is really hard.” |
| “”What doesn’t kill you makes you stronger.” | “How are you doing with all this?” |
| “You need to be strong like your mother.” | “I’m so glad you showed up here today.” |
| “You need to be strong for your mother
(or for your children, family, coworkers).” | “I’m here, if you want to talk now.” |
| “Be strong, and you’ll get through it.” | “I can only imagine how you’ve coped.” |

“BE FAITHFUL”

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| “Keep the faith.” | “I’m thinking of you everyday.” |
| “This was part of God’s plan.” | “What has helped you get through this?” |
| “This was God’s will.” | “I hope things get easier for you soon.” |
| “God works in mysterious ways.” | “I can offer my help, if you like.” |
| “God tests our faith.” | “It sounds hard, getting through these days. |
| “You need to pray more.” | “I’ll be sending you my thoughts & prayers |

“BE POSITIVE”

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| “Something good will come out of this.” | “It sounds like it’s impossible to see
what’s ahead.” |
| “It happened for the best.” | “I’m so sorry this has happened.” |
| “You are lucky that your father died peacefully.” | “I was so sad to hear the news about your
father.” |
| “Be grateful it wasn’t worse.” | “You’ve had to deal with a lot all at once.” |
| “You shouldn’t be so angry.” | “It isn’t fair, is it?” |
| “You are going to be just fine.” | “I believe in you.” |
| “Keep a positive attitude-it’s better for your health.” | “It’s amazing to see you smile with all
you are coping with.” |
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JOY TO THE WORLD! Just a few Christmas notes:

1. During advent we will be singing some of the beautiful carols from the hymnal-some more familiar than others but easy to learn. And, of course, there will be favorites!
2. Poinsettias are welcome anytime.