

# The Sugar Beat

## SUGAR GROVE CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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### From the Pastor

#### Advent Season

The church year begins with the first Sunday in Advent. Advent is the four weeks prior to Christmas. The word advent comes from Latin meaning "coming." The advent season is a time of looking back and looking forward. Christmas was established by the church in the third century. It is to celebrate the birth of Jesus, the Word incarnate. Looking back, we recognize the Messiah (Christ) was the person of Jesus of Nazareth. It is He who the prophets of the Old Testament spoke about. He fulfilled the promise of God by becoming one of us and showing us God in the flesh. He came not as a king or power in the human sense but he came as a servant to all. He came with humility. Most of all He came in love. No longer do we have to guess what God is like or if He truly loves us, or is He out to get us. What a great gift we have received. Yes, advent is a time to look back.

Advent is also a time to look forward. As Jesus fulfilled the coming of the Messiah, He has promised to come back as King of kings and Lord of lords. That is truly exciting good news! He will come one day to gather His bride, the church, to be with Him in all eternity. When?

Only God knows. We may read signs as Jesus spoke of but no one knows. The New Testament church believed He was coming back in their life-

time. Some people quit working and just waited for His return. People have been waiting almost two thousand years for His return.

It is almost like waiting for Christmas when you are a child. It seemed like Christmas was years and years away. As an adult, it seems it comes very quickly. It is our perspective. So it is with Jesus second coming. To most of us children, it seems like He may never come back. But to our Father, God, He is right on time in His time.

Advent is to look back and celebrate the wonderful gift of a Savior. It is also a time of looking forward to the King of kings and the Lord of lords.

May each of us use this special time in the church year to prepare ourselves for His coming. He will return.

If he doesn't come in your life time, you will make the trip to him. In any case we are to be awake and prepare ourselves to be in His presence.

**Bro. Gary**

<sup>18</sup> I warn everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: If anyone adds anything to them, God will add to him the plagues described in this book. <sup>19</sup> And if anyone takes words away from this book of prophecy, God will take away from him his share in the tree of life and in the holy city, which are described in this book.

<sup>20</sup> He who testifies to these things says, "Yes, I am coming soon."

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

<sup>21</sup> The grace of the Lord Jesus be with God's people.  
Amen.

Revelation 22:18-21 NIV

## Our Stewardship

### October 2009

Beginning Balance	\$ 21,710.44
Deposits	\$ 8,130.05
Expenses	<u>\$ 10,317.61</u>
Ending Balance	<u>\$ 19,522.88</u>

Pastor Salary	\$ 2,810.20
Pastor Housing - Sept	\$ 511.00
Pastor Retirement Contribution (2 months)	\$ 1,057.92
Funeral Flowers / Food	\$ 140.00
Benevolence - Local	\$ 50.00
Food Bank	\$ 100.00
Insurance - Building	\$ 787.40
Supplies	\$ 429.03
Pastor Mileage/Expenses - Sept	\$ 478.06
Janitor	\$ 280.00
Snacks	\$ 163.51
Clerk - 3rd qtr	\$ 200.00
Bulletins	\$ 100.58
Van Fuel	\$ 69.45
Telephone	\$ 93.72
Our United Outreach (10% of Giving)	\$ 777.67
Presbytery	\$ 1,634.10
Utilities	\$ 334.97
Monthly Transfer to Missions Account	\$ 300.00
	<u>\$ 10,317.61</u>

### **Nursing Home ministry Needs You!**

third and/or fourth Wednesday around 12:30 pm.  
To begin in January 2010. You will help with residents going to the bingo game.

Is God calling you to serve Him as an elder?

Please pray about and listen for His call.

### Christmas Celebration

December 20, 5:30PM

Join with us to fellowship and have a great time celebrating the birth of our Savior.

**Community Christmas** is asking organizations to sponsor a child via Angel Tree. Various groups of Sugar Grove will sponsor children. (Men's Fellowship, CPWM, Sunday School Classes, etc.) There is a spending limit of \$100 per child. If you would like to give to this minis-

**Shampoo and soap.** Once again, we have been asked to provide shampoo and soap to be given to families of Crittenden County. There is a box in the Narthex in which you may place

### Christmas Communion

December 23, 7PM

Join us for a candle light service as we observe the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

## Prayer List

<u>Pray For</u>	<u>Requested By</u>
Wesley Alexander	Darl Henley's nephew
Lois Bebout	Bernice Travis
Ginger Orr Boone	Darl Henley
Tonya Boyd	Devin Brewer
Anna Collins	Anne Crider's mother
Frankie Cook	
Richard Cruce	
J W Fulton	Evelyn Roberts
Don Heiss	Llya Rizzo
Tom & Althea Holloman	
Scotty Hopkins	Becky McKinzie
Viola James	
Greg Kelley	Jayne Ann Head
Jessica Lemaster	Bro. Gary
Jane McGill	Terry Coleman
Herman McMain	
Glynn Patmore	Anna Kirby-Hunt
Mike Perryman	Bernice Travis
Kay Shewcraft	Barbara Brown
Sue Volkman	Kelly Perryman
Charlotte Westfall	Ada Mae Hillyard
Kota Young	Jayne Ann Head

## Members of the Military

Cody Brandon	Kevin Householder	Joey Shirey
Ervin Davis	Scott Hurley	Jonathon Taylor
Valerie Edwards	Josh Jackson	Rodney Travis
Justin Hodge	David Jones	John Venable
Keith Finney	Skyler Powell	John Watson
		Troy Woody

## Others

United States of America, President Obama and all elected officials,  
Session, Sunday School Teachers, Bro. Gary

## CPWM Tuesday, December 1st

The ladies will meet at 5PM at the Farmers' Bank parking lot. They will dine at the Majestic House in Princeton. After the supper, they will shop for the "angel tree" children.

All ladies of the church are members of CPWM and are encouraged to attend.

## Men's Fellowship

**Thursday December 3rd 6:30 PM**

## Bradyn Williams

Continue to pray for 1 year old Bradyn and Mark and Crissy. There is a website you can log on to for Crissy's journal. She updates Bradyn's condition from time to time. There is also a place for you to write a note to Mark and Crissy. The website is:



[www.caringbridge.org/visit/bradynsstory/journal](http://www.caringbridge.org/visit/bradynsstory/journal)

Mark and Crissy thank each one for the prayers.