

ALTERNATIVE GIFT FAIR 2010 - WHOSE BIRTHDAY IS IT ANYWAY?

For many of us, Christmas has become commercialized to the point that we feel pressure to buy and consume. But what do we buy a friend or loved one who has few needs or wants? This year, Covenant will sponsor its 17th **Alternative Christmas Gift Fair**. It is a special opportunity to give to those in need. The *2010 Alternative Christmas Giving Guide*, in your bulletin and on the table in the Narthex, gives you a chance to think about worthy organizations and how we as a Christian community can become partners in the work of the church. The Mission and Outreach Committee has identified five mission organizations that will be featured at this year's Alternative Gift Fair. These include *Rise Up for Kids, CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates), The River, Interfaith Hospitality Network and Living Waters for the World*. **After today's worship service**, join us in the Fellowship Hall for refreshments, and meet the representatives from these mission organizations who will answer questions and discuss the work in which they are involved. You will be given an opportunity to give to any of these organizations in honor of friends and loved ones. Gift cards will be available. If you miss this event, you can still participate throughout Advent.

HELP THE RIVER BY GIVING AND SHOPPING -- The River ministry has been blessed with a "MATCHING GIFT CHALLENGE" of \$10,000. **This means that your gift of any amount will be matched up to their goal of \$10,000 if received by December 1st**. If they reach their goal, The River will have a total of \$20,000 to help them continue serving women and children in need! The River is being represented at the Alternative Gift Fair again this year. Remember that ALL money collected for The River by Dec. 1st (including contributions at the Alternative Gift Fair) will be matched by the grant! Please help The River reach its goal of collecting the entire \$10,000 grant by giving generously.

THE RIVER CHRISTMAS PROJECT -- It's that time of year again already! It's time to start thinking of how to make Christmas a little better for those who have little, and share the love and compassion that our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ has shown us. Each Christmas, for several years, our church has adopted The River and the women that are in need of their services. This Christmas we are doing the same, only in a different way than we have in the past. The River is throwing a Christmas Party for 50 ladies and has asked us to supply special Christmas presents for them. Each gift would cost around \$10. You may purchase more than one gift. Our goal is 50 gifts. If we exceed our goal, of course, there are many more women that need our love this Christmas. When purchasing these gifts, please keep in mind that this may be the only Christmas gift some of these ladies will get. Some gift suggestions would be jewelry, purses, wallets, scarves, totes, umbrellas or perfume. Please drop off the gifts in bins located at the front of the church in the Narthex or in Fellowship Hall, along with a box the gift would fit in. **We will wrap the presents at After Church Lunch, December 12th**, and celebrate the love and generosity of our church. If you would like to donate to The River also, they are always in need of toilet paper, paper towels, bleach, fabric softener sheets, stain remover, garbage bags, creamer, coffee, and dishwashing liquid. If you have questions, please contact Melissa Hopkins at 610-0531 or melissahopkins@embarqmail.com

POINSETTIAS

If you would like to place a poinsettia in the sanctuary this Christmas season, please use the enclosed order form. Cost is \$10 each this year and the deadline for ordering is **Sunday, December 5th**!

NEW CHURCH E-MAIL ADDRESSES

Sharon: sharon@covenantpresjc.org

Andy: youth@covenantpresjc.org

Tina: office@covenantpresjc.org

TODAY AT COVENANT:

Morning Greeter:	Jim Starr	Chimer:	Drew Amstutz
Liturgist:	Janet Powell	Gateway:	Karen Mabe
Youth Choir Director:	Anne Smith	Nursery:	Melissa Hopkins
Acolytes:	Julia Hagelberg & Linden Hillhouse		

CHURCH STAFF:

Pastor:	Rev. Sharon H. Amstutz	Secretary:	Tina Simon
Dir. of Youth Ministry:	Andy Irvin	Financial Secretary:	Anne Webb
Pianist & Interim Choir Dir.:	Jennifer Palmer	Custodian:	Marie Britt

THIS WEEK AT COVENANT:

Today, November 21

9:00a

Chime Choir Practice

After Worship Alternative Gift Fair

Monday, November 22

DEADLINE for Sunday's bulletin

Tuesday, November 23

7:30p

Al-Anon Meeting

Wednesday, November 24

Office Closed - Holiday

Thursday, November 25

Office Closed - Thanksgiving

Saturday, November 27

9:30a Greening of the Church

PEOPLE IN OUR PRAYERS

Chris Adler Hillhouse, Arlene Wilkinson, Jack Fletcher, Agnes Plank, Lattie Collins, Diane Bowman (Mary Bowman's daughter), Bob & Estelle Armistead, the family of Bob Sobol, Jim Crandall, Roger Hecht, Rose Willis, Patricia Chafin (former member of Covenant), John Brumit (Betsy Moakler's brother), Max Wilson, Helen Davis, Pat Adams, Vi Block & her family, Elva McCartt, Arthur "Bud" & Eileen Kelsey (friends of Butch & Harriette Carr), Marvin Parker (Evelyn Kemp's cousin), Ed & Marie Britt, Corrine Broyles, Julia Trifiletti, Aneita Carr

If you know of other reasons for rejoicing or concerns you would like to share with others please complete a prayer card with your requests.

THANK YOU!! -- We thank you so much for all your cards and prayers, and for the meals you've brought to us. We miss being with our church family and hope to be able to attend services and join in congregational activities again very soon. We appreciate your continued prayers. Thank you, Arlene & Harold Wilkinson.