

# The Lord Is Near

November 27<sup>th</sup>, 2011  
First Sunday of Advent



The Federated Church of Paxton  
10:00 a.m. Worship Service  
Pastor Colleen Lawrence, Minister  
pastorfglc@gmail.com • H (217) 379-2722  
Colleen - C (815) 994-0674 • Don - C (815) 994-2262  
Rev. Dr. Robert Ross, Pastor Emeritus  
Organist - Priscilla Andreae



# Welcome to our guests!

Please take a minute to sign our guest book located at the back of the sanctuary.

**Unison Song**      *"Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus" (All verses)*      PH, #2

**Sharing of Joys, News, Concerns**

**Opening Prayer**

**\*Prelude**      *"Creator of the Stars of Night"*      McCabe

**\*BRINGING IN THE LIGHT OF CHRIST**

**\*Opening Hymn**      *"There's a Sweet, Sweet Spirit"*      PH, #398

**\*LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE (insert)**

**The Decoration of the Sanctuary**

**\*Hymn**      *"O Come, O Come Emmanuel"*      PH, #9

**The Paraments**

**\*Hymn**      *"Deck the Halls"*      Insert

**The Greens**

**\*Hymn**      *"The Holly and the Ivy"*      Insert

**Investment of Time, Talents & Treasures**

**Offertory**      *"Come Thou Long Expected Jesus"*      arr. Karvonen

**\*Hymn**      *"We Give Thee but Thine Own" (one verse)*      PH, #428

**\*Prayer of Dedication (in unison)**      *Mark 13*

**Holy God, triumphant liberating savior of all,  
receive these gifts and the hopeful hearts that offer them  
as part of your bountiful harvest.**

**Strengthen and sustain us through our hungers and our fears  
until your unexpected advent.**

**Help us as we wait to know each day that we are a part of your  
generous, expectant household, the body of Christ. Amen.**

**The Wreaths**

**The WORD**

**Lectionary Scripture**

Isaiah 64:1-9; Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19; 1 Corinthians 1:3-9;

\*All who are able, PLEASE STAND

**Anthem** "Jesus Comes with Clouds Descending" arr. ?

**Gospel** Mark 13:24-37

**Message**

**The Christmas Tree**

**The Christmons**

**\*Hymn** "O Christmas Tree" Insert

**Sacrament of Holy Communion**

**Invitation**

**Prayer**

**Sharing the Gifts**

**Prayer**

**\*Closing Hymn** "Great is Thy Faithfulness" PH, #276

**\*Benediction**

**\*TAKING OUT THE LIGHT OF CHRIST**

**\*Postlude** "Psalm 80" setting by Diemer



**Poinsettia Memorial/Honorariums**

Would you like to sponsor a poinsettia in memory or honor of a loved one for the Christmas season? This year, poinsettias will be burgundy in color, wrapped in foil with a bow and a drip pan for \$15.00 per plant.

Please make checks payable to the Federated Church and indicate on the check memo that it is for a poinsettia and drop it in the offering plate or mail to the church. The listing will be posted in the Christmas Eve bulletin, so we need sponsorship completed by December 18, 2011.

Please indicate below your name and who you are dedicating the plant to.

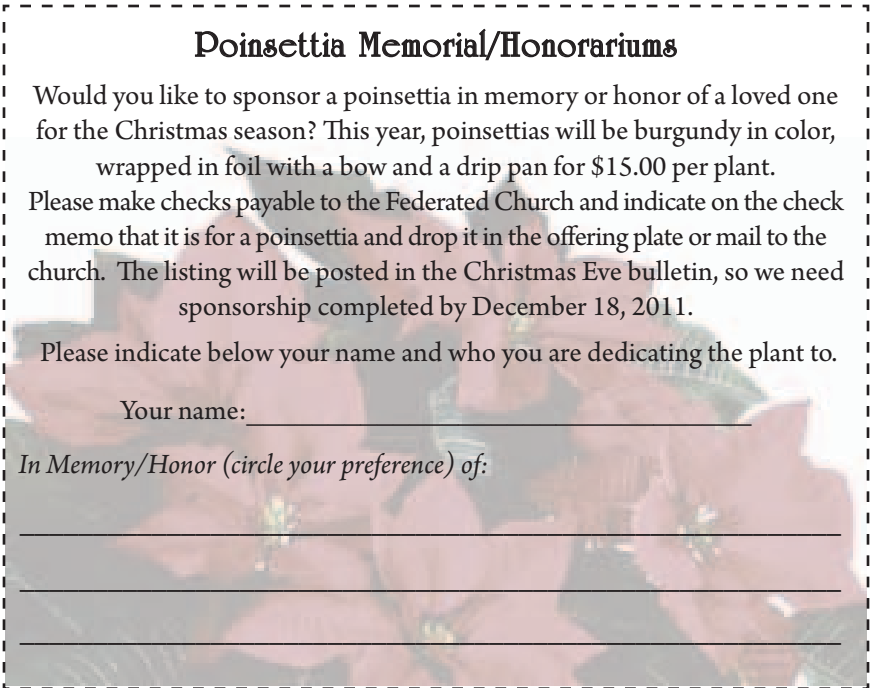
Your name: \_\_\_\_\_

*In Memory/Honor (circle your preference) of:*

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Today, November 27th**

1st Sunday of Advent (Communion Elders - Vicki Cole & Deana Niewold)  
December Newsletter Deadline

**Monday, November 28th**

Messiah Practice in Gibson City at 7 p.m.

**Wednesday, November 30th**

Confirmation-6p.m./ Youth Group-7p.m./Choir Practice-7p.m.

**Sunday, December 4th**

Coffee Hour for December birthday & anniversary celebrants  
Messiah Production at 3:00pm at Gibson City Bible Church

**November Greeters Liturgists Ushers Elders** ~ Tipsord, Williams, Scott  
**December Greeters Liturgists Ushers Elders** ~ W. Niewold, Taylor, Cole

## November Birthdays & Anniversaries

9<sup>th</sup> - Dave & Laura Adkins  
Anniversary

21<sup>st</sup> - Don Lawrence

25<sup>th</sup> - Grace Funk

27<sup>th</sup> - John Turner

28<sup>th</sup> - Marissa Williams

## Annual Meeting

The Annual  
Congregational Meeting  
will be held  
Sunday, January 15th.  
Please make every effort to  
be in attendance.

***Lord, We ask thanksgiving, comfort, healing  
and faith for these friends and family members***

Marcella Woodworth - bad knees; Jeff Legener;  
Brent Lawrence - surgery; Bill Cofel; John Lateer

### ***Homebound or in Nursing Homes***

Sue Moore - c/o J. Schmidt, 511 Ridge Lane, Eureka, IL 61530  
Donald Rhodes

Jani Fraim - Room 219, GC Hospital & Health Center

Wanda Larson - La Canada Care Facility, Tucson, AZ

Marcella Woodworth - Prairie Village, Rantoul

Eloise Shear at Gilman Nursing Home, Gilman

**For the month of December, please bring peanut butter, spaghetti &  
spaghetti sauce, canned stews, & cereal for the Food Pantry.  
As always, all non-perishable food items are welcomed.**