

# PROCLAIM



Declare His glory among the nations, His marvelous works among all the peoples! - 1 Chronicles 16:24

A Newsletter of Christ Chapel

Issue 52, Volume 1

January 2010



John-Paul Lotz  
Senior Pastor

## FROM THE SENIOR PASTOR

### “Teogopa”

How many people would love to start the new year debt free? How many of us would like to live the next year debt free?

In these times of recession, foreclosures, unemployment, and mounting debts, words like these sound pretty fantas-

tic. In fact, they sometimes sound just plain cruel. We live in a debt-based economy. For far too long, most of us have lived beyond our means, and have had to shoulder some pretty heavy deficits. Others haven't, for various reasons, but all of us have probably known what its like to have less than we expected at the end of the month. Usually, the first thing that comes out of our checking accounts are the debts: Mortgage, car-loan, credit-cards, second mortgage, more debt, until all we've got left is just enough to get by, if that! And then if there is a little extra, then perhaps we 'tithe' a little to the church.

'Tithe' a little. That's a strange sounding fragment of a sentence. What does 'tithe' really mean today? It's not a very popular word, now, is it?

The word 'tithe' is derived from the old anglo-saxon word, 'teogopa', which meant, 'a tenth'. The teogopa

was collected in parishes and by churches in medieval England as a tithe from the produce of the land, to the church. This tenth was taken as an ancient Christian tradition that dated all the way back to Abraham, and symbolized man's dependence on God for all that he has.

Now, for most modern Christians, the tithe, a tenth of our earnings, has had various interpreters and detractors. Some have claimed that this in an Old Testament concept, and since the law has been fulfilled in Christ, we no longer need to tithe. Of course, that's like saying that since Christ fulfilled the law, we no longer need to keep the Sabbath, or speak the truth to our neighbors instead of lying; remain faithful to our spouses instead of committing adultery, love our enemies instead of committing murder. In fact, Jesus himself condemned the Pharisees not for tithing the mint and cumin (as they should, said Jesus) but for failing to keep the weightier matters of the law.

Sure, tithing is secondary to loving your neighbor as yourself. But as disciples of Jesus, we shouldn't be spiritual mathematicians, calculating to do the minimum required of us. We should seek to conform the totality of our lives to Christ.

Some have argued that a tithe is not a particular amount, but whatever we can afford, or feel in our own hearts we can give. Of course, in the Old Testament it

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***“This tenth... symbolized man's dependence on God for all that he has.”***

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**Thomas Crumb**  
Associate Pastor

## WORSHIP NOTES

### Making All Things New

It's a new year and a new decade in what is still a fairly new century. Though observing the start of a new year is not specifically a part of the church's calendar, new begin-

nings often give us pause to look back, take stock, and, in turn, look forward to the blessings and challenges that lie ahead with a spirit of "power, love, and self-control". (2 Timothy 1:7) According to Revelation 21:5, God is in the process of making all things new. It seems worth pondering that he doesn't say there is coming a time when He "will make all things new" but rather that He is (and has been) working to make all things new through the progressive unfolding of His plan to save fallen humanity and to create a new heaven and a new earth. He IS making all things new!

In these times of economic crisis and global uncertainty, of wars around the world and crimes in our own neighborhoods (as most dramatically highlighted in a series of articles in The Cape Cod Times), of global poverty, hunger, and disease, we can easily feel overwhelmed as we face the unknowns of a new year. As Christians, though, we step into the new year with faith and confidence, knowing our God has been faithful in the past and promises to remain so. We step forward, humbly acknowledging our sin of the past, our dependence on God's grace, and the impossibility of facing the coming year in our own strength. We step forward with hope and joy because our God is great and worthy of praise.

I came across the following prayer by Rev. Gary Brouwers, a pastor in Hollandale, Minnesota in one of

my worship journals. It spoke powerfully to my heart, and I thought it might bless you and lead you in contemplation and devotion as well. So, with Rev. Brouwers permission, I share the following prayer with you:

Lord, we give thanks for your faithfulness through this past year, and for all our years. Ever since you created the world, you have been faithful, and this past year is one more example of your goodness. We thank you for births. We thank you for healing. We thank you for courage in the midst of tears. We thank you for comfort in the midst of despair. We thank you for strength in our weakness. We thank you for your faithfulness.

Lord, we also confess our faithlessness. We thought we had better things to do than spend time with you. We had other sources of hope, apart from you. We went looking for satisfaction and meaning from other gods, yes, other gods, apart from you. And we paid the consequences for it. We lost meaning, we lost hope. We lost when we left your path to go our own way. We confess our sins, and that brings us back to

thanksgiving. We are thankful because your forgiveness is constant, your love is unending. We confess, and are grateful to find you welcoming us back.

You protect us from the wickedness of this world. There is so much hurt, so much evil, so much injustice. We see how people fail to care for your world, and we grieve. We see how people treat one another, and it horrifies us. We see evil people getting away with it, and sometimes we give up hope.

~ Continued page 7 ~



***"As Christians, though,  
we step into the new year  
with faith and confidence,  
knowing our God has been  
faithful in the past  
and promises to remain so."***





Pete Axelson  
Youth Pastor

## YOUTH NEWS

### Deadly Sins

I must admit, I rather enjoyed writing about gluttony last month. Turns out it may have given me *Proclaim* material for another six months, as gluttony is just one of the

seven deadly sins. I ended up doing a little research on these sins, so at the very least you will hear a bit more about them this month. Come to think of it though, it might be good for my readership to continue writing about each sin individually in the coming months. Let's face it; part of our human nature is to be attracted to sin. We need look no further than the current Tiger Woods drama and the massive publicity it's receiving to know this to be true. You have my word that should I choose to tackle some of these sins in future columns, I will do my best to do so in a non-tabloid style.

First, let me share a little bit more about the seven deadly sins in general. They are pride, greed, envy, lust, sloth, anger, and gluttony. They never occur as a formal list in the Bible, although all of them occur with regularity. They were first identified by one of our church fathers, St. John Cassian (360 – 435), and they were later refined by Pope St. Gregory the Great (540 – 604).

While I've enjoyed reading up on these sins, I must say I am still a little confused as to what makes this particular list any more deadly than any others. Did Cassian read Romans 6:23 before calling this list deadly? *"For the wages of sin is death but the gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord."* What this passage is saying is all sin leads us to death, not just a

particular seven. All sin has separated us from God, and without accepting God's gift of grace through Jesus Christ every one of us would be talking a long walk off a short plank straight to eternal damnation. I think when Cassian came up with these; he was focusing more on the capacity for sin to completely overtake our lives as is often the case with this particular list of devilish deeds. I think when we look at the list, all of us can identify with one or two that we may struggle with and see the danger of becoming a slave to that sin. After all, Romans 6:16 tells us we are slaves either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness. It could also be argued that while all sin separates us from God and is therefore deadly, this particular list might have some more dire consequences here on earth than some others. To use the current Tiger Woods debacle again, not even knowing the man I think we can safely say that pride, greed, and lust have all contributed to his current state of affairs (pun not intended). Tiger, like many others, will be reaping the consequences of his sin in many ways for many years to come.

While sin is the topic of this column, I don't want to leave you on such a sour note. Since we are beginning a new year I feel like I should leave you with something a little more uplifting and practical for your spiritual life. To simply say that these are the big ones, now focus on them so you won't get ensnared would not be a very effective spiritual strategy. It's always better to focus on the positive. With that in mind I've provided you with a table of sins and their opposing virtues complete with Scripture references for your own personal study. Enjoy, and happy new year to you all. ■

***"For the wages of sin  
is death but the  
gift of God is  
eternal life through  
Christ Jesus our Lord."  
~ Romans 6:23***

Sin	Virtue	Scripture
Pride	Humility	Philippians 2: 1-11
Greed	Generosity	2 Corinthians 8: 1-15
Envy	Love	1 Corinthians 13 and 1 John 3: 11-24
Anger	Kindness	Ephesians 4: 25-32
Lust	Self Control	1 Peter 4: 1-7
Gluttony	Temperance	Proverbs 23: 21 and 28: 7
Sloth	Zeal	2 Thessalonians 3: 6-15



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p><b>3</b></p> <p>Morning Worship - 8:25 &amp; 11 Sunday School - 9:45 am Sr. High Connect - 5:30 pm Sunday @ 6</p>	<p><b>4</b></p> <p>CPR - 3:45-5:00 pm Christian Ed - 7 pm</p>	<p><b>5</b></p> <p>Men's Bible Fellowship 7-8:30 am</p>	<p><i>Rejoice with those who are celebrating!</i> ◆ Birthdays ⌘ Anniversaries</p>	Office Closed	<p><b>1</b></p> <p><b>New Year's Day</b> 2</p> <p>Man to Man - 6 am</p>	
<p><i>This is God, Our God forever and ever. He will guide us forever</i> <i>Psalms 148:14</i></p>						
<p><b>10</b></p> <p>Morning Worship - 8:25 &amp; 11 Sunday School - 9:45 am <b>Sr. High Winter Retreat</b> Sunday @ 6</p>	<p><b>11</b></p> <p>CPR - 3:45-5:00 pm Missions - 6:30 pm Sandwich Small Group-6:45 pm ◆ Devonia Keller</p>	<p><b>12</b></p> <p>Men's Bible Fellowship 7-8:30 am Trustees - 7 pm</p>	<p><b>13</b></p> <p>Prayer Meeting - 1:00 pm Boys Brigade &amp; GEMS 6:15-7:45 pm Jr. High Combust - 6:30-8 pm ◆ Noah Driscoll</p>	<p><b>14</b></p> <p>Choir - 7 pm</p>	<p><b>15</b></p> <p>Man to Man - 6 am</p>	<p><b>16</b></p> <p>◆ Betty Roberts</p>
<p><b>17</b></p> <p>Morning Worship - 8:25 &amp; 11 Sunday School - 9:45 am <b>Annual Reports Due</b> Sr. High Connect - 5:30 pm Sunday @ 6</p>	<p><b>18</b></p> <p><b>Martin Luther King Jr. Day</b> First Light Men's Bible Study Centerville - 6:30 am Office Closed ◆ Maxwell Crosby</p>	<p><b>19</b></p> <p><b>Newsletter Deadline</b> Men's Bible Fellowship 7-8:30 am</p>	<p><b>20</b></p> <p>Prayer Meeting - 1:00 pm Stephen Ministry - 6:00 p.m. Boys Brigade &amp; GEMS 6:15-7:45 pm Jr. High Combust - 6:30-8 pm</p>	<p><b>21</b></p> <p>Choir - 7 pm</p>	<p><b>22</b></p> <p>Man to Man - 6 am ◆ Matthew Dahl</p>	<p><b>23</b></p>
<p><b>24</b></p> <p>◆ Arnold &amp; Sharon Clark Morning Worship - 8:25 &amp; 11 Sunday School - 9:45 am Sr. High Connect - 5:30 pm</p>	<p><b>25</b></p> <p>First Light Men's Bible Study Centerville - 6:30 am CPR - 3:45-5:00 pm Sandwich Small Group-6:45 pm Elders - 7 pm ◆ Dorothy Waldo</p>	<p><b>26</b></p> <p>Men's Bible Fellowship 7-8:30 am</p>	<p><b>27</b></p> <p>Prayer Meeting - 1:00 pm Boys Brigade &amp; GEMS 6:15-7:45 pm Jr. High Combust - 6:30-8 pm</p>	<p><b>28</b></p> <p>Women's Bible Study 9:30-11:30 am &amp; 7:00-8:30 pm Choir - 7 pm</p>	<p><b>29</b></p> <p>Man to Man - 6 am <b>Jr./Sr. High Providence Bruins Hockey Game</b> 5:15-11 p.m.</p>	<p><b>30</b></p>
<p>◆ Lauren Fogle</p>	<p><b>31</b></p>					

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 3, 2010**

8:25 & 11:00 AM

Matthew 2:1-12

*Dr. John-Paul Lotz*

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 10**

8:25 & 11:00 AM

John 6:1-21

*Dr. John-Paul Lotz*

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 17**

8:25 & 11:00 AM

John 6:22-71

*Dr. John-Paul Lotz*

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 24**

8:25 & 11:00 AM

John 7:1-36

*Dr. John-Paul Lotz*

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 31**

8:25 & 11:00 AM

John 7:37-52

*Dr. John-Paul Lotz*



**SEVERE WEATHER SERVICE CANCELLATIONS**

*In the case of heavy snow, please check any of the following media to see if Sunday morning services have been cancelled.*

**TV Channels 4, 5, 7 & 56  
WBZ NewsRadio 1030  
WRKO 680 AM, WQRC  
www.whdh.com/stormforce**



**Memorial Service for Michael Sheppard - January 2, 11 am**

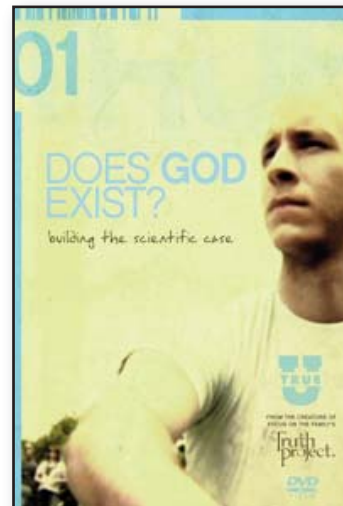
The life of Kathryn Sheppard's son and Phil & Irene Morrison's son-in-law, Michael, will be celebrated at a Memorial Service at Christ Chapel on Saturday, January 2 at 11:00 a.m. A reception will follow the service. ■

**College & Career Spiritual Formation Class begins January 17**

Beginning January 17, Pastor Pete will begin **TrueU**, a DVD-based apologetics curriculum by Stephen Meyer and Del Tackett. Dr. Tackett, architect and voice of *Focus on the Family's* The Truth Project®, describes this endeavor this way:

Produced by *Focus on the Family* in conjunction with Coldwater Media, **TrueU** is an apologetics training series primarily geared to help prepare students for the rigorous challenges and attacks that will confront them on the university campus.

This is a 10 part series, taught by a Christian who is a well respected scientist. There are video promotions on the website: [www.trueu.org](http://www.trueu.org). ■



**Discovering Christ Chapel - January 9, 9 a.m. - Noon**

If you are interested in membership at Christ Chapel, please plan to attend this class on Saturday, January 9 from 9:00 a.m.-Noon. Brunch will be served by our Hospitality Committee. Please contact the church office to let us know you would like to attend. ■

**A Women's Concern Baby Bottle Campaign - January 24**

Christ Chapel will begin its annual Baby Bottle fundraising campaign to benefit *A Woman's Concern* on Sanctity of Human Life Sunday, January 24. Please pick up a baby bottle in the narthex, fill it with spare change and return it to Christ Chapel by Sunday, March 7.

*A Woman's Concern* provides complete, accurate information and compassionate peer-counseling to women and couples who are making decisions about unintended pregnancies. ■



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was a particular amount: The tenth part of ones produce, and the first fruits at that! But, many argue today that we don't live in an agrarian economy anymore, and so shouldn't have to tithe our money. We can tithe our time, or our talents. Of course, the problem with arguments like these, is that all our time belongs to the Lord, and so do all our talents. And, if the New Testament does supersede the Old, then it does so upwards, not downwards. In other words, if the OT demanded a tenth, the NT demands it all!

So how can we at Christ Chapel be faithful in our tithing? How can we dedicate ourselves, and our earning to the Lord in Biblical ways? Well here are four tips:

1. A tithe is ten percent. So, budget ten percent of your gross, and give it to the Lord, who is the head of the Church. (Practically, tithe to the Church!)
2. A tithe is your first-fruit, so, make it the first entry in your check-book for the month, not the last — if any is left!
3. If you want to give offerings or gifts, than do so cheerfully, as you decide in your heart, but give these as gifts and offerings — to individuals or to causes — but don't count it as the tithe because that goes to the Church.
4. Tithe your money: That's your produce today. Giving time, talents, and other skills is great. It's called serving one another. Do so often and cheerfully, but not as the 'tithe'; that belongs to the Lord.

These may sound like radical ideas today. We're not used to living like this! But, this has been the common habit of Christians for 2000 years. You're not alone in this endeavor. And if it's difficult, then you know this — all you have comes from the Lord, and keeping a little back is not going to make the difference. In fact, tithing may radically alter your life-style, and your way of spending money! And of course, that is the goal. God gives us the tithe not because he

***“So how can we at Christ Chapel be faithful in our tithing?”***

needs it, but because we need to learn how to depend on him, and not on our excess. And we need to unlearn our consumer instincts. The other goal of tithing is to teach us how to be generous like the Lord, who gave his Son, forgave all our debts, and then welcomed us as sons and daughters for free! Tithing is God's secret way of teaching us grace and helping us to learn how even our wallets can be a place for the power of the cross to be displayed.

As you begin this new year, don't get your hopes up about living debt free, get your heart set on living generously, and begin with giving back to the Lord a tenth of what you earn. It will keep you disciplined (and eventually, will probably help you live debt free!), but it will also make you generous, like your heavenly Father... ■



***“He did not spare his own son but gave him up for us all”***

*Romans 8:32a*



**What the 2010 Budget Means to Each of Us.**

At the December business meeting our all-important 2010 budget was presented to the congregation. As with past budgets there were thoughtful questions about next year’s projections that were answered with appropriate explanations and clarifications before being approved as presented. This final step always proves to be the easiest part of an arduous process that begins months earlier with hours of diligence, expertise and often some very hard choices by those who are willing to delve exhaustively into the business affairs of our church. Your affirmative vote is an expression of confidence in the stewardship and accuracy of those involved with its preparation; but putting the budget to a vote has far more significance than just that. Did you know that your approval is a mandate to leadership to follow a mutually agreed upon financial plan and that it is an expression of your personal commitment to support that plan?

When Christ Chapel’s congregation approves a budget it directs the Board of Trustees to faithfully maintain church property and fund all of its services within the constraints of approved expenses. Protecting the organization’s financial integrity is implicit; fiscal restraint and sound business practices are expected. However, the Board of Trustees only has discretion over half of the budget: Expenses! The Board has no say over the “first” and most important part of our budget, our income statement and our financial viability: Revenue. That aspect is totally reliant on your tithes, offerings and gifts. Not surprisingly but very unfortunately, revenue (giving) has been declining even though membership has remained stable. In fact this past year revenue fell short of the congregation’s commitment to the 2009 budget.

On Sunday, December 27<sup>th</sup> Pastor Lotz spoke on this very issue and the Scriptural calling to each one of us to give of our “first fruits”. Because each of us gives voluntarily in accordance with our hearts and means, church expense can never be simplistically boiled down to a “cost” per member. Nevertheless, the Trustees have agreed to share the calculation below simply as a benchmark to help everyone understand how much must be raised to meet the 2010 budget. Some of you will be surprised how minimal the amount actually is, especially for those who faithfully tithe. However, please note that the figures below are for basic operations only and do not address our dangerously depleted building fund and a shortage of resources for ministries; which is why all of us — members, family and friends alike — must prayerfully decide to give as we are called and able to do so.

Approved 2010 Budget . . . . . \$596,000  
 Number of Individuals and Couples Giving . . . . . 200  
 Cost per Individual/Couple ( $\$596,000/200 = \$2,980$ ) . . \$2,980  
 Cost reflects a 10% Tithe on less than \$30,000 annual income.

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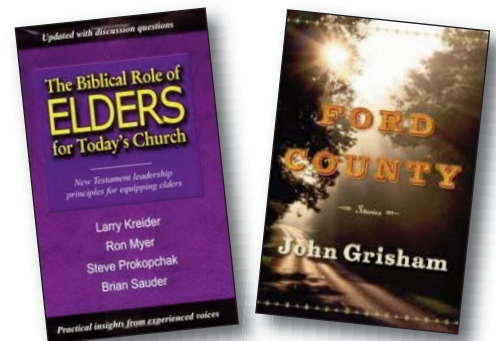
And then we see you move and act and restore and judge. And when we see you at work in your world, we cheer; we praise. And we recommit ourselves to you. We want what you want, Lord. We want a world that worships you. We want an earth that is healthy. We want marriages to be life-giving. We want children to grow in wonder and awe and love for you. We want every part of this world to be cleansed by the blood of your Son on the cross. We want our actions and our words and our thoughts to be holy. We want our lives to be controlled by you, every movement, every decision, everything— yours.

We want these things so that our everyday lives bring praise to you. When people look at us we want them to know, without any doubt, that we belong to you, and the whole world belongs to you.

We thank you for this past year. We trust you for the new year. Amen. ■

FROM THE PASTOR’S BOOK SHELF

What is Dr. Lotz reading this month?



**The Biblical Role of Elders for Today’s Church**  
 by Larry Kreider, Ron Myer

**Ford County**  
 by John Grisham

## CHRIST CHAPEL CLASSIFIED

Please email or deliver your ad to the church office by **January 19<sup>th</sup>**.  
Ads will run for 3 months and can then be renewed.

### FRAMING & CALLIGRAPHY

Years of experience and reasonable prices.  
Contact Donna at Dowler Graphics to  
discuss your needs! 508-428-6836. 9/09

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## CONTACTING CHRIST CHAPEL

### We welcome you to...

Visit our website:

[www.ChristChapelCapeCod.org](http://www.ChristChapelCapeCod.org)

Send us an email:

[Info@ChristChapelCapeCod.org](mailto:Info@ChristChapelCapeCod.org)

Call us: 508-420-1200

Fax us: 508-420-3341 or

Mail or Drop by:

1200 Old Stage Road  
Centerville, MA 02632

### KITCHEN AND BATH DESIGNER

Sell, Design, Install custom and stock cabinetry.  
All types of countertops, Granite, Corian,  
Quartz, etc. Lee & Pat Clement, Kitchen Design  
Center 508-477-6115 6/09

### SUPPLEMENTATION CHOICES

For years my health has benefited from taking  
supplements while attempting to eat wisely.  
Check out the following which are my regular  
supplements: Shaklee Vitalizer for overall health;  
Vivix which protects/repairs DNA; and  
Nutriferon which supports a healthy immune  
system. Ann Russell, 508-775-1916,  
Independent Distributor 12/09

### SNOW BIRD SPECIAL AT ST. AUGUSTINE FLORIDA CONDO

Stay one week, get one week free at a lovely two-  
bedroom, fully equipped Ocean & Racquet Resort  
condo through April 3, 2010. Details, photos and  
info at [www.SundazeCondo.com](http://www.SundazeCondo.com). Call Elayne  
Brigham at 508-776-4195 for more info. 9/09

### NORM'S APPLIANCE SERVICE

All brands of major appliances. Prevent dryer  
fires! Let us inspect or replace your vent.  
Normand Sawyer - 508-364-7738 1/10

### CONDO FOR SALE - YARMOUTHPORT

John Hansen is offering \$10,000 off the \$249,000  
cost of his 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo at  
Heatherwood, a luxury senior living facility. Close  
to the dining room & amenities, it features high  
ceilings, full kitchen, ample closets, a garage & a  
private deck overlooking a pool and well-manicured  
landscape. The facility offers meals, cleaning, secu-  
rity, transportation, activities and more. Call Dee  
Higgins, oldCape Sotheby's International Realtor at  
508-896-5000 x214 for details. 11/09

### ELECTRICIAN

Lighting installation, electrical panel upgrades,  
generators, service calls. Big or small Coastal  
Light Electric is there for all of your electrical  
projects. Licensed and insured. Call Alex  
Kuharenka at 508-274-9981 or visit us at  
[CoastalLightElectric.com](http://CoastalLightElectric.com) 11/09

### TOWN HOUSE FOR RENT

Foxmeadow Condominium, E. Sandwich – Two  
bedroom, 1 ½ bath, new appliances, fireplace,  
private patio, convenient to beaches, shopping  
and highway. \$1,400 per month + utilities.  
Available 12/1/09. Contact Dave & Linda  
Guilderson at 508-776-772 10/09

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## CHRIST CHAPEL

1200 Old Stage Road  
Centerville, MA 02632



***Proclaim!***  
January 2010 Edition

***This is God,  
our God forever  
and ever.  
he will guide  
us forever***

Psalm 148:14