

The goal of this reflection and preparation was not just celebrating Christmas. It was also to make plans for growth over the new year. Some old service books had liturgies for “Resolution Sunday.”

In a few weeks, many people will make New Year’s resolutions. They are often admirable commitments to self improvement, and well worth making. But let’s also remember the deeper commitments that will allow us to be ready so the Son of Man will find us faithful when he returns.

*Rev. Paul Johnston*



*Rev. Carey Jo Johnston*

## A YEAR OF CELEBRATION: “2010 REMEMBER WHEN”

As we enter our 150th year as a worshipping community, it is good to remember that God loves for us to celebrate! Most often, celebrations, festivals, in the Bible revolve around remembering God’s faithfulness, saving work, and provision for his people. God called Israel to celebrate, to remember when, during festivals such as Passover\*, Purim, Tabernacles, First Fruits. God continues his call to us people to celebrate.

The church also has its regular celebrations. In the Christian Church we celebrate God’s saving power through Jesus. Jesus as he ate with his disciples during the Passover feast called us to remember his saving work through his death until he comes again. This we call “The Lord’s Supper” or “Communion.” We celebrate the resurrection of Jesus from the dead each Sunday morning as we gather together, with special focus on Easter Sunday

We are entering the celebration of Advent, the beginning of the church year. We are called to remember that Christ has come and is coming

again! We often focus our celebrations during advent on the coming of Jesus to earth as a baby, rejoicing in God’s saving work. We also want to focus on the reality that Jesus is coming again, not this time as a baby, but as the King of Kings and Lord of Lords, fully grown. Jesus is coming to bring to completion God’s plan of salvation for the world, bringing everything into proper relationship with him.

This Advent season is also a time to begin our celebration of God’s faithfulness and gracious work through Knox congregation over the past 150 years. Our theme for the celebration is 2010 Remember When. Ruth Eberts is coordinating with others who are helping to bring us a variety of opportunities over the next year to celebrate God’s faithfulness, saving presence and provision for Knox Presbyterian (see list of events already in the works). If you have ideas or would like to help, please let Ruth Eberts know.

\*You can read generally about festivals in Leviticus 23 and 25. You can read more specifically about Passover in Exodus 23, Purim in Esther 9:18ff, Tabernacles in Exodus 25, Year of Jubilee in Leviticus 25.