

Cross Roads Communiqué

Pastors Gary & Lisa Lyon Phone: 724-845-1901 E-mail: crcpc@windstream.net

January 2012

Experience the wonder of Christ...Grow & Thrive in your faith...Our hands reaching your hands...as we share the Spiritual adventure

January Worship Opportunities Sundays at 10 AM

January 1

“GPS for a Bible Lost in Translation”

Guest Speaker: Paula Mahar

January 8

“What He Says, Goes”

Communion Celebrated

Worship in the Social Hall begins this Sunday!

January 15

“Do You Hear What I Hear?”

January 22

“Quick! Before it’s too late!”

January 29

“Giving – or Doing – Too Much?”

Guest Speaker: Susan Gero



SOUP SALE
Super Bowl Sunday
February 5, 2011
Vegetable Beef and
Chicken Noodle
\$5.00/Quart

Order Deadline: January 29, 2011

Please use order form in this newsletter
or sign up at church.

Pick Up at the church on Feb. 5 from 11 AM to Noon.
Proceeds benefit Mission Trip Fund and
Local Mission Endeavors

2012 Per Capita

Each year Session is responsible for sending in to Kiskiminetas Presbytery a dollar amount for each member of our church. These funds are used to pay administrative expenses at Kiskiminetas Presbytery, Synod of the Trinity, and General Assembly level of Presbyterian Church USA. **We are members of the PCUSA!** Each of these governmental bodies has been facing tough financial realities. Major cuts have been made at each PCUSA level as we seek to be responsible. This bill (extension of our ministry) is paid in quarterly payments. We escrow special gifts you make to help cover this expense. Total 2012 expenditure: \$6,554.64. **Session has chosen to ask if members would donate \$26.43 for each confirmed household member to help us cover this expense.** Please mark your check 2012 Per Capita & include your envelope #.

Cross Roads Community



Working to make a difference!

To grow our church deep and wide in 2012, we encourage everyone to step up their volunteer time at CRCPC. We need you to sign up now!

Here's how you can give of yourself in addition to your financial donations!
We have two new ministry teams that

will play a vital role in growing our church spiritually, numerically, and financially, and we need volunteers to help carry out fund-raising initiatives.

Grow the Church will be commissioned with the task of telling the story of Jesus beyond CRCPC. We will strive to unlock the doors of the hearts of people who aren't typically connected with the established church. The pastors are in touch with experts in this field to chart a new and much-needed ministry.

Buried Treasure begins 2012 with the monumental task of affirming the congregation's Dec. 11 vote to move forward. This team is empowered to brainstorm and make concrete plans to meet budget deficits via major fund-raising initiatives. Part of their task is to match gifted & talented church members with initiatives.

Volunteer Task Group will be composed of members and friends willing to give their time to carry out pre-planned events, programs and initiatives developed by Grow the Church and Buried Treasure Ministry Teams.

Please sign up on the First St. Bulletin Board, send us an e-mail, or call the church office and let us know where you are able to serve. Thank you for your willingness to take the next step in the ministry and mission of Jesus Christ.

Opportunities for mission, ministry & fun!

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January at a Glance

CRCPC Choir Practice – Wednesdays, 7 PM; Prophetic Frenzy Practice – Wednesdays, 8 PM

3 – Food Bank Distribution, 10-11 AM; 6-6:30 PM
3 – Session & Deacons Meetings, 7 PM
8 – Worship in Social Hall Begins (thru Mar. 25)
15 – Activity Reports Due

17 – Mission Team Mtg. at Dunnivans's Home, 7 PM
21 – Pot Love Dinner, 12 PM
22 – Treasurer's Reports Due
29 – Deadline for Soup Orders

Don't like lists? Calendar pages (with a box for each day) are on the bulletin board in the church office.

Worship in the Social Hall Begins January 8, 2011!

In an effort to conserve energy, reduce fuel bills, stay warmer, and get to know your neighbor in a reduced space, worship in the Social Hall will begin on January 8 and run through March 25.

Monday Evening Club Thank You! The Leechburg Monday Evening Club would like to single out the CRCPC cooking crew who fixed them a wonderful December Party Turkey Dinner. The cooks will remain nameless at their request, but please know your talents were awesome as always!

Congregational Meeting February 5, 2012 following worship for purposes of receiving 2011 activity & treasurer's reports, presenting 2012 budget.

Annual Report for February 5 Meeting: In order to create the annual report for review, we are requesting that all activity reports from ministry teams and groups be submitted to the church office by January 15. All treasurer's reports are requested no later than January 22. Reports will be prepared and available for review on January 29.

Shepherds Appointed: During the month of January, Gary and Lisa will be dividing the congregation up into 21 different groups. Each group will be assigned to one of our present elders and deacons. Their job is to stay in touch with you, pray for you, and listen to any joys and concerns that you might have to share. We hope that you will welcome them as they seek to grow the community of faith.

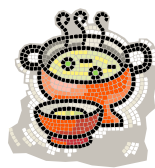
We still need e-mail addresses! Sending info via e-mail will help CRCPC's financial situation by reducing mailing & copying costs. PLEASE send your e-mail address to crcpc@windstream.net if you have not already done so. Thanks!

Salt of the Earth - Our ministry to chemotherapy patients is ongoing and meaningful to everyone involved. As always your donations for the bags are very much appreciated by those who receive them. Items can be placed in the cabinet at the bottom of the 1st Street stairs.



Prayer
T E A M

We are going to reorganize and update our prayer teams. If you are already a team member, we'll keep you on the list unless you tell us otherwise. If you would like to become a prayer team member, please call or e-mail the church office. You can receive prayer needs and requests via telephone or e-mail (your choice). Let us know by January 30, if you want to become part of this ministry.



Soup Sale Pick-Up: Sunday, February 6

Name _____

Phone # _____

Cost: \$5.00/quart

_____ qts. Chicken Noodle Soup \$ _____

_____ qts. Vegetable Beef Soup \$ _____

Total Due \$ _____

Getting Down to Business

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Session Munchies:

- Examined elected elders and deacons and voted to proceed to ordination and installation on Sunday morning, Dec. 11.
- Alerted deacons that beginning in January, session would like them to assume responsibility for set up and clean up of communion because of changing priorities for elders in 2012.
- Transferred 13 persons to inactive roll and removed 1 person from roll at their request.
- A lengthy discussion took place with multiple votes regarding the position of Rev. Lisa Lyon as Co-Pastor. Final recommendation was to move forward with the original recommendation to the congregation to dissolve 25% of full time position with Lisa, eliminate the position of co-pastor, and to present Terms of Call for Gary Lyon that would be a 100% position.
- Appointed Richard Snyder to present recommendations to congregation
- 2012 Budget was approved
- Thanked outgoing session members, Richard Snyder, Tammy Dunnivan, Sandi Lechner, Jim Potter; and deacons, Dennis Bringer, Bill Davis, Karen Ferrero.

Financial Corner December 1 - 30, 2011

Income:	\$17,121.72
Expenses:	\$14,089.63
	\$3,032.09**

**A portion of this balance is restricted and cannot be used for day-to-day bills. The actual total available for general use is \$2,153.07.

{January Bills Estimate \$9,500.00}



Did you forget to turn in your 2012 Commitment Card? Please do so immediately. Call the office if you've misplaced yours!

**2012 PER CAPITA!
Will you help Session
pay our allotment?
\$26.43/confirmed member**

2012 Financial Picture

We are very glad 2011 is behind us. Thanks to the significant response by church members to budget shortfalls and remembering your end of the year contributions, we are going into the New Year on a positive note.

The following matters are of deep concern:

- By the end of March contributions drop off, gas use increases, and the end of the first ¼ bills are due. Winter is the hardest time of the year financially for Cross Roads. *Please remember to send in your regular contributions if you are not here on Sunday.*
- None of our staff have received increases to their salaries since 2010.
- Increase of cost of required medical insurance for our pastors.
- Enough volunteers to staff needed fund raising initiatives in 2012 to cover budget shortfalls.
- Over 60 of our families have not returned 2012 Commitment Cards. *Please turn them in with a signature. This alerts us that you are going to give something. It helps with planning our budget.*

These items bring us joy:

- 13 new families have chosen to make a written commitment to CRCPC for the first time in 2012.
- 16 families have chosen to increase their giving to CRCPC in 2012
- Many members are signing up to help raise additional dollars for our budget and mission in 2012
- Many members are coming forward and committing themselves to help Grow the Church
- A large increase of committed \$'s to our budget over 2011.

Thank You!

The Buried Treasure Team would like to thank all who participated in the Colonial Candlecrafter fundraiser. With you generosity, our general fund profited by \$284.30. Thanks to all who purchased candles and/or gave monetary donations. I have had some excellent feedback on the candles, so let me know if this is something that the congregation would like me to follow through in the future. Hoping all have a Blessed New Year!

Linda Hill (lgh0225@hotmail.com)



More Opportunities, News, & Information...

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WEBPAGE UPDATED

Go to www.crcpc.org and check it out!

December, 2011 Memorials

In MEMORY Of:

Andrew T. Sendry
Andrew T. Sendry

Given By:

Mrs. Andrew T. Sendry
Andrea E. Sendry



Need Offering Envelopes?

Call 724-845-1901, sign up on the sheet at the First Street door or e-mail crcpc@windstream.net. We'll get them ready for you.

Thanks Church School kids for the great Christmas Pageant during worship on Dec. 18!



Need a good meal on weekends?

Tired of eating alone?

Food budget stretched thin?

Pot Love Dinners

are for you!

SATURDAY, JANUARY 21

NOON

A warm welcome and a hot, nutritious **FREE** meal.
Reservations appreciated but not necessary.



JANUARY

- 3 Alexandria Ceschini
- 5 Melissa Renwick
- 6 Anne Brady; Gary Hall; Kate Stephenson
- 7 Gertie Simon
- 9 Michael Troya
- 12 Mary Botti
- 13 Claire Brady; Kris Snyder
- 15 John Zeiner
- 16 Noah Schultz; Meighan Nelson
- 17 John Kupas; Haley Potter
- 19 Doreen Hunter Hirshka; Terry Schall
- 23 Donna Liston
- 24 *Gordon & Martha Davidson
- 26 Betty Jane Nolf
- 28 Santina Troya
- 30 Elias Zeiner
- 31 Gary Cockroft

*Anniversary

Santa paid us a visit during the CRCPC Christmas Party!



...And Still More!

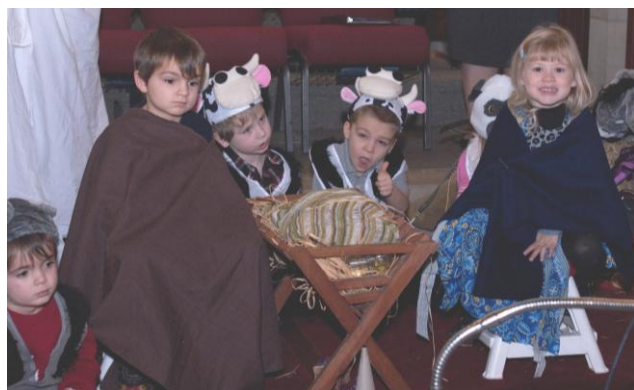
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The Mission Team's "helping hands" are willing to come and lend them to you. We'll help with your projects (painting, repairs, simple carpentry, etc). Call or e-mail the church. We'll set a time to help!

Cross Roads extends its sympathy to the family of Jean Leech who died on December 2. Please keep the Leech family in your thoughts & prayers.

**More Christmas Pageant Pics...
Aren't these kids great?!**



Tastefully Simple is CRCPC Church School's on-going fundraiser. You can keep stocked up on your favorite Tastefully Simple goodies by ordering using paper forms or on-line. Paper

forms may be obtained from Allison Whitesell. To place an on-line order go to www.tastefullysimple.com; click on SHOP OUR PRODUCTS; click on HOST/EVENT SEARCH; Type in Cross Roads (first name) Presbyterian Church (last name); then shop away! All products are delivered to your door! Our Church School receives 20% of all sales. Thanks for your continued generosity and support!

Beginner's Bible Blog

Will be updated with Session 4 in Mid-January. The first 3 lessons are available through our web site and paper copies at church entrances.

Go to www.crcpc.org and check it out!

We are truly blessed to be in ministry here at Cross Roads Community. Thank you for your generous gift and your love these many years. May God lead us all as we continue to celebrate the joyous news of Christ's love in the Leechburg area!

Gary & Lisa



CRCPC 2011 Mission Trippers

2012 MISSION TRIP NEWS!

We are heading to Harrisburg, PA area to help with recovery efforts due to 2011 Summer flooding. Tentative dates: March 18 – 24, 2012. See Jim Potter if you are interested in going.

**Cross Roads Community
Presbyterian Church**

271 Main Street
Leechburg, PA 15656-1038

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Dated Material

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From the Lyon's Den

Later

*after the angels,
after the stable,
they went back. . .
as we all must,
back to the world that doesn't understand
our talk of angels and stars
and especially not the Child.
We go back complaining that it doesn't last.
They went back singing praises to God!
We do have to go back,
But we can sing alleluias!*

From *Kneeling in Bethlehem* by Ann Weems

In early December a much needed discussion and prayer time took place at Cross Roads Community concerning the ministry and mission of our church. The session, Lisa, and I know that the intent of the discussion concerning pastoral positions and terms of call were not so much about your pastors, but about the reality of our ministry and mission as a church in the Leechburg area. Decisions were finalized with

close votes and then Advent was upon us, angels were around us, and the Christ Child was born with much joy!

Does Christmas last? We do have to head back to the grind and the flow of everyday living here at Cross Roads. All those things we discussed as session, congregation, and pastors concerning income, expenses, and membership realities are still here. But we also believe that as we leave the angel/manger/birth time, that the same joy that flooded our hearts just a few days ago at Christmas is present with us all the time.

We hope and pray that you believe with us that God will lead CRCPC faithfully in 2012. As we begin the hard work of being a changed church, may we continually keep our sights on that star called **Joy- Hope- Peace-Love** over Bethlehem.

Blessings do abound!

Gary and Lisa

PS: Please see the article on the 1st page entitled: **To grow the church deep and wide.** Let's **work to make a difference** for Jesus in this new year!