

## Calendar

### Sunday

*All Sundays*

9:00 AM – Choir Practice  
9:45 AM – Coffee and Fellowship  
10:00 AM – Sunday School for All Ages  
11:00 AM – Worship  
Youth Group meets on Sunday afternoons-  
contact Shaquera Alls for specific dates:  
[allss@lmc.edu](mailto:allss@lmc.edu)

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday each month - Five Cents a Meal  
Offering; and, Canned Goods, Groceries and  
Pet Food for Volunteer Avery.  
Last Sunday of each month – Newsletter  
deadline

December 5<sup>th</sup>, 6 PM Contemporary Worship  
Service

December 12<sup>th</sup> - Joy Gift Luncheon after  
church in the Fellowship Hall, please bring a  
covered dish

### Tuesday

*All Tuesdays*

10:30 AM – Prayer Cloth Ministry –  
Fellowship Hall

### Wednesday

*All Wednesdays*

12 Noon – Bag lunch Bible Study -  
Fellowship Hall

### Thursday

*All Thursdays*

Information for the Sunday Church Bulletin  
due in the morning  
November 18<sup>th</sup> 3:00 PM – Meet at church to  
deliver Thanksgiving Gift Certificates to  
needy families in our community  
November 18<sup>th</sup> 5:30 PM – Annual Church  
Thanksgiving Dinner, please come and bring a  
dish]  
December 2<sup>nd</sup> 7:00 PM, Tree decorating at the  
church

### Friday

November 19<sup>th</sup> 7:00 PM - “Our Town”,  
Crossnore School auditorium  
\*\* December 24<sup>th</sup> 5PM – Candlelight Service

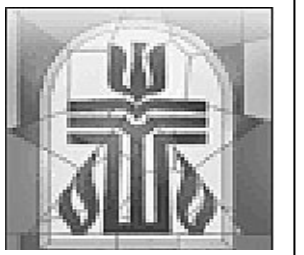
### Saturday

November 20<sup>th</sup> 7:00 PM - “Our Town”,  
Crossnore School auditorium

\*\*Christmas Eve Service

# The Crossnore Chronicle

November 2010 – Volume 2010 Issue 11 – November 2010



*The Crossnore Chronicle is published monthly by the Communication Team of Crossnore Presbyterian Church: Bill Bagby, Chairman; and, Editors Betty Redman France, Fred France. Phone: 828-733-1939*

## Special Events

The annual church Thanksgiving Dinner will be held  
Thursday evening at 5:30 p.m., November 18, in the  
Fellowship Hall. Come and bring a dish to share.

Bible Study topics for Wednesdays 12 Noon until 1:30  
(Bag Lunch): November 17<sup>th</sup>, Intelligent Design and  
Evolution and then on December 1<sup>st</sup>, Final Discussion  
on Faith and Science.

The play, “Our Town,” featuring members of our  
church in the cast, will be held November 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>  
at the Crossnore School auditorium at 7 p.m. Please  
try to attend if at all possible.

Lorraine Alls, Jim Taylor and Barbara Ross will  
provide a Thanksgiving Day meal, to be served at  
about four PM, for about 30 students at Lees McRae  
College who will be on campus during the  
Thanksgiving weekend when the dining hall is closed.  
Some students live too far away from home to travel,  
especially the foreign students, and this is an  
opportunity for the church to care for them. If you  
would like to help either by helping cook or by  
providing food or cleaning up, please contact Barbara  
Ross at 828-387-6332 or the church office. *This is  
another community outreach opportunity.*

## Gifts at Thanksgiving

By Bill Bagby

Each year Crossnore Presbyterian makes six or eight  
families happy at Thanksgiving by presenting them  
with \$100 Gift Certificates to Ingles Grocery Store.  
This is an act of sharing what we have with those in  
our community who are less fortunate.

Part of this mission is having congregational members,  
young and old, go and personally hand the gifts to the  
families. Sharing a few moments with them in  
Christian love means as much to some of them as the

gift itself.

Last Thanksgiving one of our members visited with  
an older single woman who lived alone and rarely  
had anyone come by to see her. She was moved to  
tears not only by the gift certificate but by the fact  
that someone came to visit and talk with her for a  
little while.

You can share in this wonderful opportunity in two  
ways. You can participate in presenting the gifts  
personally by meeting in the Fellowship Hall of the  
church on Thursday, November 18<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 p.m.  
Bill Bagby will divide those present into teams to go  
and visit these families.

If you can't participate personally, or even if you  
can, you can make a contribution to the church to  
help with the purchase of the gift certificates.

## The Pastor's Message

*A Season of Gratitude*

Give thanks with a grateful heart

Give thanks to the Holy One

Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ, His  
Son

And now let the weak say, "I am strong"

Let the poor say, "I am rich"

Because of what the Lord has done for us"

Give thanks!

This contemporary song puts into a few simple  
phrases the power of God's love embodied in the  
life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. As we  
prepare to celebrate Thanksgiving let us remember  
to include in our list of blessings the things ***the Lord  
has done for us***—family, friends, our congregation,  
and the many ways God has touched and  
transformed our lives.

Let us also remember to be thankful for the things  
***the Lord is doing through us***—raising families,  
being caregivers, and sharing our lives through our  
work and volunteering. Over the past few months  
many of you have contributed so much right here in

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Postage

Website: [www.crossnorepresbyterian.org](http://www.crossnorepresbyterian.org) (You can also visit our Facebook page).  
Church Phone: 828-733-1939  
Rev. Kathy Campbell : 828-963-5190 (R) or 828-260-2512 (Cell)  
Pastors email: [rev.kathy.campbell@gmail.com](mailto:rev.kathy.campbell@gmail.com)  
Church email: [crospres@yahoo.com](mailto:crospres@yahoo.com)

our own congregation--singing in the choir, teaching Sunday School, helping with the youth, feeding hungry people (and pets), contributing financially, renovating the church basement, installing the new handicap ramp and railing, beautifying the grounds, providing a safe space to discuss conflicting Christian views on critical issues, serving on presbytery committees, producing a monthly newsletter, providing opportunities for traditional and contemporary worship, creating prayer cloths, hosting dinners and programs for fellowship and fun, . . . the list goes on and on.

The Crossnore Presbyterian Church has so much to be thankful for—we are growing in faith, members, and mission. God continues to call us to share the abundance of our lives with others.

*In addition to our regular budget, we have some special opportunities to reach out locally and globally:*

- we are sponsoring seven Thanksgiving Baskets for needy families in Avery County
- we are creating a Spirituality and Arts Corner (crafts, books, DVDs, and CDs) in the Arthur Cottage at Crossnore School
- we are collecting money to buy livestock (sheep, goats, chickens, pigs) for a third world village through the Heifer International [www.heifer.org](http://www.heifer.org) \*\*a great alternative Christmas gift for family and friends who have everything. If you would like to contribute to any of these special opportunities, please let me or a session member know. You can email me at [rev.kathy.campbell@gmail.com](mailto:rev.kathy.campbell@gmail.com).

Our church family will be celebrating Thanksgiving on Thursday, November 18, at 5:30 p.m. I hope you and your family will be able to come and enjoy the blessings of Christian fellowship and the best darn home cooking in the High Country (don't forget to bring a dish to share!).

In Christ,  
Pastor Kathy

### Clerk's Report

By Barbara Ross, Clerk of Session

Due to great interest in the Contemporary Worship Service, another one is scheduled for December 5<sup>th</sup>. The first service was led by Rev. Kathy Campbell,

Jim Taylor and Chloe, our student volunteer from Lees McRae. Everyone is invited to come and participate.

Please refer to the calendar in this issue for the special events scheduled for Advent and Christmas and put them on your personal calendar. The holiday season is a special time in the life this congregation and we want everyone to share in the joy and fellowship of these planned events.

Reports from Session members are included in other articles in this issue and events planned are on the calendar. It is important to watch for notices in the bulletin and to listen to the announcements from the pulpit for updates.



### Arthur Cottage News An Invitation

“Our Town” is coming to town. This journey with the play, “Our Town,” has been a great experience. Since the casting in September we have had a bumpy road from not being able to go to the auditorium, to people quitting and the common problem of people not knowing lines.

Now it's all coming together - we have our cast secure and our lines memorized. I have to tell you I have really enjoyed this experience. This is my first time ever in a leading role. I'm surprised I even got it. We have so much fun. Back stage is always filled with laughter.

We are looking forward to our opening night. We hope to have a full auditorium but you never know. That's why I'm inviting all of you - the Crossnore Presbyterian Church congregation. It doesn't matter whether it's the 19<sup>th</sup> or the 20<sup>th</sup> of November. You can get more information from the posters around the church.

I hope to see you all there.

In Christ,  
Erin and Arthur Cottage

### Understanding the Choices We Make

By Betty Redman

Two stories, one from the Bible and the other from mythology, remind us that making an unwise choice may have unexpected and extenuating circumstances.

Prometheus attempted to steal power from the gods and suffered for his act. Adam and Eve, failing to believe God had given them everything they needed, disobeyed God and reaped the consequences.

Both stories are well known and powerful. They speak clearly about disobedience to God, or gods in the story of Prometheus, in favor of following our own desires. Many of us behave as Prometheus and Adam and Eve did. We make decisions based on what we believe will bring us pleasure, prove our power over something or somebody, or make us look wiser. Often we do things, right or wrong, to please others whom we consider important and powerful. Often we don't think about how our decisions affect others, others who are also created by God.

In Hebrew, the word, “Satan,” is defined as “adversary,” or “one who stands in the way or hinders.” We allow ourselves to be hindered when we fail to understand that God has empowered us with all we need for living satisfying and fulfilled lives and for making decisions that overcome the power of Satan. Made in the image of God, we have greater power and wisdom than we are willing to admit. Perhaps we think that to acknowledge these gifts from God is arrogant or selfish. Perhaps we think standing on this knowledge will diminish our image in the eyes of the world in which we live. Instead, we choose to let other people or things set the standards for our happiness, and these external forces fragment our thinking and make us feel inadequate. We allow Satan's power overcome us and neglect to tap into the hidden source within us that is God. We continue to make decisions that may hurt others or thwart plans made for the common good. We are far more concerned with our image, not as God sees us, but as others perceive who we are.

Choosing to live authentically in the knowledge that God has given us gifts to meet whatever circumstance or situation we encounter is choosing to enrich our lives with meaning. Is there a more adventurous life than that in which one rises every morning ready and willing to accept with confidence whatever opportunities and challenges come? There is some fear and risk involved, but to shut out the challenges, to deny the use of our particular gifts, to let worldly approval instead of God's word guide us, is to just exist irresponsibly fearing forces of our own shadowy doubts and fears.

God has created us with the ability to grow, to move

forward, and to make a difference in the lives of others. Our role is to make choices in life that honor God's desire for a loving and accepting world where people are concerned about others as well as themselves, choices that flow from our inner being, choices initiated with the assurance that God is present in us. Seeking truth in the community of faith where God's spirit dwells can help us discern God's intent for us. Ultimately, it is our decision before God for which we are held accountable.

### Presbytery News

By Barbara Ross

The October 22-23 Presbytery Meeting was held at Lake Junaluska Conference Center. Worship leaders were Rev. Margaret Torrence and Mr. Eric Wall. The keynote speaker was the Reverend John McCall whose sermon was “The Lord of Risks,” and he and the Reverend Becca Young officiated at communion. Bobbi White, General Presbytery reported that 43 of the 112 churches in the Presbytery reported growth in 2009. She encouraged everyone to “pray for God's guidance, try new things, risk failure and learn from it, and to be flexible.”

The next meeting of Presbytery will be January 29, 2011, at Grace Covenant in Asheville. At this meeting the commissioners will vote on some of the overtures from General Assembly. It will be an interesting and informative meeting and you are encouraged to attend as a visitor. There were 65 visitors at the October meeting.



**November 28<sup>th</sup> is the first Sunday in Advent**  
(Romans 13: 11-14)