



# Crossnore Presbyterian Church

## "Growing Deeper in Faith, Reaching Out in Love"

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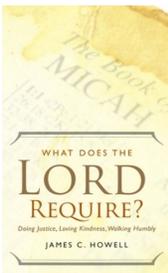
### Announcements and Items of Interest

February 19, 2020

**5 Cents a Meal and Food for People and Pets, Sunday February 23, 2020—9:00 a.m. Choir Practice, 10:15 a.m. Sunday School, 11:00 a.m. Worship.**

**February Potluck Luncheon will be held in the fellowship hall following worship this Sunday.** There will be homemade chili. Please bring a side dish to share if you are able.

**Bible Study meets this Wednesday, 3- 4:30 p.m., to continue studying the Book of Micah along with the book, What Does the Lord Require by James C. Howell.** Join with us in the learning and the sharing.



**Our Friday Hands-On Service Project is with Feeding Avery Families that provides over**

**600 families and individuals with much needed groceries.** Volunteers are needed from 8:30 a.m.- 11:30 a.m. and from 12:45 p.m.- 4 p.m. The office is located next to Carolina BBQ in downtown Newland.

For more information: <http://www.feedingaveryfamilies.org/>



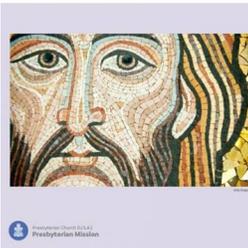
**The next Men's Breakfast will be held on Tuesday, March 3, at 9 a.m., at Kaye's Kitchen.**



**Our February mission fund of \$1,000 is completed and is going to Crossnore School to cover the cost of new polo shirts and khakis for children and youth arriving at the school.** When they go to class their first day, they look like the rest of the students. These

funds were generously provided by the end of the year giving to the Pastor's Discretionary Fund.

Becoming a Beloved Community  
*A Matthew 25 journey to the cross*



**The Lenten Season begins on Ash Wednesday, February 26. You will be receiving a church mailing with a daily Lenten Devotional, Becoming a Beloved Community, a calendar of events for the Lent/Easter Season, and information about our Lenten Mission Project.** We will be collecting donations for the Guatemala Educational Scholarship that keeps 25-30 children, youth, and young adults in school in Los Cerros, Guatemala. This is our sixth year in partnership with El Libano Presbyterian Church in Los Cerros.

### February Birthdays

- \* SUZY MARTIN CROUCH—FEBRUARY 2
- \* GREG GACEK—FEBRUARY 19
- \* CHARLIE SIMS—FEBRUARY 20
- \* JUANITA PAUL—FEBRUARY 21

### Prayer Requests

- \* MIKE KILGORE
- \* PATRICIA MCGARR
- \* FRANK MARTIN
- \* BARBARA ROSS
- \* FRED & BETTY FRANCE
- \* NICHOLAS (COLE) GRETZ
- \* FRANK DUNCAN
- \* RYAN WATTS
- \* SGT. JESSE DOWNING
- \* SUSAN HARTLEY

*"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted."* Matthew 5:4

### **Closer to Home**

Steve was one of those ministers who would do anything for you. As associate campus minister, he was just a phone call away from being with students during their time of need. For his wedding, Steve asked his entire men's bible study to be groomsmen: that's how much he took his job to heart.

Because of Steve's giving character, I was a little surprised by his message during one Sunday-night worship service. He noted that when we hear the commandment to serve others, we often think about people not like us—people who live in poverty-

stricken areas, who are struggling with an addiction, or who have fallen victim of natural disasters. It is easy, he said, to focus our "servant-sight" outside our own lives to other parts of our community, state or world. Steve then offered a confession to us: whereas he would drop everything to drive three hours to help a student, he would complain when his wife asked him to pick up some milk on the way home from work.

Why do we overlook our closest companions when striving to serve others? Maybe we believe that those around us, those "like us," are not as

much in need of our attention as those with obvious needs. I imagine it would be easier to meet the needs of someone who has lost her home to a fire, for example, than to meet the emotional needs of a close friend or family member. Steve's message was this: In the never-ending effort to serve others, let us not forget to also serve those serving alongside us.

To me, the mark of a true servant is one who strives to improve lives not only around the world, but also within his or her community. Jesus gave a great example of this when he

washed his disciples' feet: So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet (John 13:14). Notice that Jesus did not command them to wash the feet of those in surrounding areas, although they were certainly called to serve those people, but "to wash one another's feet." The disciples were Jesus' closest friends. And Jesus made the point to serve them as well as strangers. Let us not forget to also serve those serving alongside us.

Catherine Ryan  
Alive Now, Serving Others  
January/February, 2008