

Crossnore Presbyterian Church

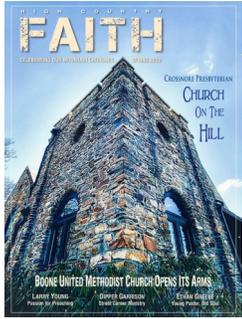
“Growing Deeper in Faith, Reaching Out in Love”

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Announcements and Items of Interest

April 29, 2020

Sunday, May 3, 2020—We will email the Sunday Service links and attachments Sunday morning.



Crossnore Presbyterian Church is featured in the special Faith Issue of the High Country Press magazine. The photos are spectacular, and the excellent article focuses on our history, personal stories, and current information about our ministry. A photo of our church building made it on the front cover of the magazine. Take time to read it along with other articles about churches and ministers. You can find the magazine online at: https://issuu.com/highcountrymagazine/docs/faith_layout_final or go to High Country Press homepage, <https://www.hcpres.com/> and scroll down the page looking at the right column until you reach Our New Faith Magazine. Crossnore Presbyterian's story starts on page 36.

Thanks to all who continue to send in offerings for the general budget and for designated giving in this time of physical isolation. Because of your generosity, in April, our church family has been able to send a total of \$5,000 to three of our mission partners: Volunteer Avery County, Reaching Avery Ministry, and Feeding Avery Families. The needs are endless but so are God's abundant blessings. Thanks for continuing to be a blessing to so many in need. We will know in a couple of weeks where we stand with our general budget.

Sheri Elderfield has made some wonderful cloth masks (that cover the nose and the mouth) with hepa filters that can be inserted. She has elastic bands and tie bands. The cost is \$6. If

you would like to purchase one, please call Pastor Kathy, 828-260-2512. You can pick your mask(s) up at the church or have it mailed to you.

If you have prayer requests, please send them to Pastor Kathy, so that they can be included in our prayer list. Be sure to get the permission to include someone's name and situation. Thanks!

Good Samaritan Story— Dawn Bates

While driving down this rural back road, with my toddler asleep in the back seat, I was just thinking, “What a beautiful morning.” I was especially glad that I had taken the road less traveled through the country because I was enjoying seeing the fields abundant with their crops. I hadn't passed one car on the road as I proceeded past acres and acres of agriculture and pasturelands. The only eyes watching me were big, brown and bovine.

I was going home, early this Sunday morning, from my mother's house. I was not going to make church because my daughter, Nikki, and I had ended up spending the night with her grandmother. That had not been planned. We were just supposed to have shared dinner and then make the hour drive back, to our farmhouse. But it had gotten late and my mother was very convincing. Just as I rounded another curve, on this secondary road, I heard an odd noise and my car began to slow down. As I steered it off onto the narrow shoulder, I couldn't help but immediately shift into “fear mode.” We were in the middle of nowhere! Nikki woke up, in the back seat. It was too far to try to carry her somewhere. I made the decision to just stay with the car. But, what if nobody comes by? Suddenly, my surroundings did not look so appealing!

Well, luckily, it was not too long until I could see a car coming. I stepped out into the lane to flag them down. To my relief, it was a very nice looking couple who appeared to be in their mid-60s. “What is the trouble?” the gentleman asked. After explaining the situation to them, the driver, again, leaned forward to see past his wife and said to me, “Well, we are just on our way to church and

I have a meeting, before the service, that I am running late for... otherwise we would help.” And just like that, they drove off, leaving me stranded with a young child. I couldn't believe my eyes and ears. “Did that really just happen?” I asked myself. Why are they going to church? My next thought was, “I hope God bears down on their hearts, as they sit in those pews today!”

Much time had passed before I heard another vehicle approaching. But, my hopes turned to trepidation, as I watched that old truck slow down and pull over. The shabbily dressed lone driver appeared to be in his mid-thirties. My initial survey revealed an unshaven but smiling face. But, I couldn't help but notice the gun rack right behind his head in the truck. The interior of the truck was sort of trashed. My first thought was that maybe I should jump back in my car with my daughter and lock the door. I couldn't put us in danger by getting into a truck with a stranger, never to be seen or heard from again!

As I wavered about whether I should even tell the man my story or pretend like we were okay, I prayed a quick prayer to my Lord. “God, if this man is safe and is truly intending to help us, please give me a sign. Otherwise, please give me an out!” At that very moment, a decal, on the back window of this truck, came into perfect view: It was a firefighter insignia. My own Dad was a fireman, in Charlotte. I immediately felt a peace come over me. This driver's appearance immediately went from “charismatic serial killer” to good Samaritan, in my mind.

It turned out that there were other eyes watching me, that day: God has us in His sight every day!

Dawn Bates's story is a modern version of the Good Samaritan story from Luke 10:25-37. You may want to take time this week to reread the story and reflect on a time in your life when a Good Samaritan helped you or you were the Good Samaritan to someone else. And then, give God thanks for the opportunities to be on the receiving end and the giving end of true mercy.

May Birthdays

- * DON HUSTON—MAY 4
- * JANE JOHNSON—MAY 4
- * ED COX—MAY 6
- * KATHLEEN SHEIL—MAY 6
- * JANE SOWDER—MAY 10
- * FRANCES BROWN—MAY 11
- * JOANNA CAMPBELL—MAY 12
- * ARCHIE McMANNEN = MAY 12
- * JOE TODD—MAY 12
- * JOHN HUGHES—MAY 21
- * JACK HOGAN—MAY 30

Prayer Requests

- * MIKE KILGORE
- * FRANK MARTIN
- * BARBARA ROSS
- * FRANK DUNCAN
- * RYAN WATTS
- * KATHY HUTCHESON
- * PEPE ABRUSCI
- * DANIEL COFFEY
- * JAMES QUEEN
- * DAVID FRANCE
- * DAVE KILGORE
- * FRANK MARTIN
- * SUSY MARTIN
- * FRANCES BROWN



Dwarf Irises have begun to bloom this week!

May your unfailing love be with us, LORD, even as we put our hope in you. Psalm 33:22