

Crossnore Presbyterian Church

“Growing Deeper in Faith, Reaching Out in Love”

P. O. Box 386/200 Chapel Dr., Crossnore, NC 28616
828-733-1939/cpcpcusa@gmail.com.
www.crossnorepresbyterianchurch.org

Announcements and Items of Interest

Sunday, December 13, 2020

This Sunday, December 13, we are worshipping together virtually; no physical worship in the sanctuary due the rising cases of COVID-19 in Avery County. This is the Second Sunday of Advent and our theme will be “Waiting.” There will be no recorded zoom service or recorded sermon this Sunday. Pastor Kathy has been on a silent retreat at Mepkin Abbey this week. Roger Wise has provided us with a sermon which will be attached as a .pdf with the Virtual Worship Bulletin and the Announcements and Prayers in the email sent out on Sunday morning. The Advent Devotions were mailed out last week. If you did not receive one, please contact the church office (828-733-1939) and we will send one to you.

The Advent Bible Study Series on Zoom is going well. Twelve people participated last week. This Wednesday, December 13, 2020 3 p.m., Rev. Maggie Lauterer will be continuing her series with the focus this week on Elizabeth and Mary. You will learn more about the roles they played in the birth of Jesus but also how their lives teach us what it means to be faithful disciples in this time that we are liv-

ing. Please email the church office, cpcpcusa@gmail.com, to sign up for a Zoom link.

We will be holding our Christmas Eve Candlelight Service on December 24th at 5:30 p.m. The service will be held outdoors under the canopy of trees on our church grounds where we worshipped this summer. Please bundle up and bring your hot chocolate as we gather to remember the baby Jesus and worship the Christ who is born anew in our lives once again. We will be social distancing and wearing masks and those who want to stay in their cars can listen to the service on their FM radio.

Our Christmas Eve Offering will go to Volunteer Avery County to assist those in need, especially our senior citizens, with heating oil and electricity in these cold winter months. Please make your check out to Crossnore Presbyterian Church and designate it for Volunteer Avery County.

One of our members, Charlie Stuart, is the author of a new and timely book, “Reclaiming the Forgotten Gospel of Jesus.” Charlie writes, “The full gospel of Christ’s redemptive gift of grace told in word and believed in faith, and in live that reflect Christ’s ex-

ample of service to others. Full gospel includes both salvation and service-to-others. It is not a question of ‘either or’ but a statement of ‘both and.’ As Dietrich Bonhoeffer said, “Christianity without discipleship is always Christianity without Christ.” We have 10 copies of the book at the church. They are \$10.00 each, with the funds going to our mission budget. A great Christmas present for the readers on your list!

Volunteers are needed to help pack food boxes at Reaching Avery Ministry. Please call Michelle at RAM to find out volunteer schedule: 828-733-5127. Janet Milsap is still with her daughter, Brooke, at the JC Medical Center; she hopes Brooke will be able to return home soon. In the meantime, Michelle is the only staff person in the RAM office.



December 13, 2020

December Birthdays

- * PATRICIA MCGARR—DECEMBER 1
- * TASHA REID—DECEMBER 16
- * NANCY YARBOUROUGH—DECEMBER 20
- * LINDA TAYLOR—DECEMBER 24
- * BILL SILVIA—DECEMBER 27

Prayer Requests

- * FRANK DUNCAN
- * JESSE & BARBARA DOWNING
- * EL WILSON
- * MARILYN GASCHO
- * DAWN BATES
- * BONNIE VUOLO
- * JANET WELLS
- * TASHA REID
- * MAGGIE LAUTERER
- * MIKE KILGORE
- * FRANK DUNCAN
- * KATHY HUTCHESON
- * DAVID FRANCE
- * FRANCES & LARRY BROWN

I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; that I know very well.

Psalm 139:14

Sheri Elderfield has reversable Christmas masks with adjustable bands; masks are \$8 each. You can pick your mask(s) up at the church office or call (828-733-1939) and we will mail the mask(s) to you. She also has regular masks; \$6 each.

Volunteers are also needed to help at Feeding Avery Families, sign up on <https://feedingaveryfamilies.org/> volunteer Due to current Social Distancing guidelines, Feeding Avery Families has shifted to a non-contact / drive-thru model for distribution of food to clients. To support this approach, roles for volunteers on Thursdays and Fridays have changed. **Truck Unloading and Stocking**

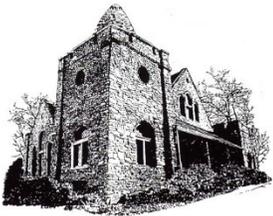
(Thursdays 9:30 – 11:30): On Thursday mornings from 9:30 to 11:30, trucks from MANNA deliver large quantities of non-perishable items, produce, meat, and dairy products. Volunteers assist with unloading the trucks and staging products for distribution to clients on Friday. While lifting is required for moving some products, there are plenty of “light duty” tasks such as placing products on shelves and packing bulk produce into individual bags. We need 10 volunteers for this work each week. **Distribution (Fridays):** On the first four Fridays of most months, clients pick up food between **9:30-11:30 AM or 1-3 PM.** Clients are directed to drive to the

reception station where **Greeters** collect necessary information (no lifting / some training required). Clients then pull forward and **Loaders** place products in the cars (lifting required). In the FAF building, **Inside Volunteers** pack additional boxes, repackage produce, assure that stock is available outside and conduct other tasks as needed (minor lifting may be required). Inside the FAF “Annex”, **Reporting Volunteers** take care of paperwork and computer data entry (no lifting / significant training required). 15 Volunteers are needed for each shift.

Memories—2018



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December 13, 2020

Daniel's Den

Daniel Coffey



An Advent Reflection on Nahum

Look! On the mountains the feet of one who brings good tidings, who proclaims peace! Celebrate your festivals, O Judah, fulfill your vows, for never again shall the wicked invade you. Nahum 1:15 (NRSV).

Many times, it is difficult for us to recognize the blessings which we have been imparted. We look at the world in terrible disarray, and we are tempted to despair. We find ourselves in constant comparison and competition with our neighbor forgetting that what we need to seek in each other is the image of our creator, the Imago Dei, as we journey together. Nahum understood these issues when he wrote to the Nation of Judah in the seventh century. His first declaration was to behold the blessings as they come running from afar and listen to these blessings, celebrating them in their fullness. God has blessed us in outstanding measure and has fulfilled his oaths from before ancient times. Christ himself is the messenger who has brought us these great tidings, and, as children in his kingdom, He has sworn an oath to guide and love us as we travel on our respective journeys in faithful service. We take refuge in knowing that our citizenship is placed in a kingdom built on truth and justice where love and mercy are the laws of the land whereby no wickedness will ever invade. Having been filled with these truths, we set ourselves to the tasks at hand in the world: loving our neighbors, working to build the Kingdom of God here on earth, and learning from each other.

So, as we travel together this Advent, let us remember the Christ Child whose feet bring these proclamations of peace. It is in Jesus's happy tidings that we Christians find our endurance and reason to press forward, seeing in everyone we meet the Imago Dei, the Christ-Child, the reason for this holy season.

Have a question on church history, liturgy, sacred tradition, Presbyterianism, or more? Submit it to Daniel's Den at Daniel.Coffey@upsem.edu.



Nahum (watercolor circa 1888 by [James Tissot](#))