

The Crossnore Chronicle

March 2011 – Volume 2011 Issue 3 – March 2011

The Crossnore Chronicle is published monthly by the Communication Team of Crossnore Presbyterian Church: Editors Betty Redman France, Fred France. Deadline for articles: Last Sunday of each month. Email Betty France, frdnbtv@charter.net or call her at 828-387-2197 or drop off articles at the church.

Crossnore Presbyterian Church
200 Chapel Drive
P.O. Box 386
Crossnore, NC 28616

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



Lenten Season Supper and Service Series in March and April

Please mark your calendars now so that you can participate in the supper series and service projects we are going to sponsor from March 17 through April 9. The programs and projects are being set up and we will soon have opportunities for you to sign up to help with a meal, devotion, or a service project. Our theme for this Lenten Season is “Strengthening Families in Hope and Faith”. We have the following programs confirmed so far:

Wednesday, March 9, is the beginning of the Lenten Season. The Ash Wednesday Service will be at 6:30 p.m. at Fletcher Presbyterian Church in Newland; this is shared service with our local Presbyterian congregations. Rev. Terry Alexander and Rev. Kathy Campbell will be leading worship. Please plan to carpool—meet at our church at 6 p.m.

Lenten Supper Seminars, Thursdays, 5:30 pm -7:30 pm: we need folks to prepare meals.

- **March 17-** Avery County Sheriff, Kevin Frye, will be sharing the good, the bad, and the ugly concerning Avery County law enforcement and how families are impacted.
- **March 24-** Cary Guy, Director of the New Opportunity School for Women, will be sharing this great program for Appalachian women and how we can support it and encourage local women to apply for this summer’s program. A local NOSW graduate will share her experience as well.
- **March 31-** Bobbi Willard and Rosalie Stewart, who are staff members of WAMY, will be sharing the needs of single parents and their families, what is offered, how to support single parents through the paperwork process and appointments, and what is still needed in our county for single parents and families.
- **April 7-** Sara Yackey, Director of Smart Start—A Partnership for Children in Avery County, will be sharing the work of this organization, the early reader program, how the budget cuts will affect this program, and how we can be involved in helping children in Avery County.

Lenten Season Service Projects, Saturdays : we need coordinators for each of these service projects.

- **March 19-** TBA
- **March 26-** Avery Partnership for Children Fundraiser
- **April 2-** Habitat for Humanity Work Day, 8:30 am - 3:30 pm, must be at least 16 years old to work on the site. **April 9-** WAMY Community Day at Freedom Trail Elementary School—this is a time to learn about the service providers in our county and bring back information for our congregation.

Evangelism

By Barbara Ross

Evangelism has taken many forms during the past year. Through work in the following areas Crossnore Presbyterian has experienced significant growth:

1. Ministry with Crossnore School/Arthur Cottage girls and their Residence Counselors.
2. Monthly breakfasts (May through October) when new people invited by our members, friends, word of mouth and advertising experience the joy of CPC fellowship.
3. Bible studies which attract and touch the lives of both church and unchurched individuals.
4. Meaningful worship services.
5. Robby Martin’s work with the Recreation Department’s youth leagues of softball and football which may reach more young families.
6. Our new web site which Fred France has built and continues to add wonderful links and information.
7. The Crossnore Chronicle, edited by Betty Redman and Fred France which has a distribution of over 200 and is sent by regular mail and email and hand delivered by the editors to the Avery and the Banner Elk Chambers of Commerce..

Session News

By Barbara Ross

Session met for its second annual planning retreat on Saturday, February 26. The main purpose was to prepare a schedule of tasks and dates for the Session members and their respective Teams. The following dates were established:

- The Session will meet bimonthly at 4 p.m. on the first Thursday of each month beginning on March 3rd.
- Session Teams will meet bimonthly on the first Sunday of the month immediately after church beginning April 3rd.

The expectation is that Teams and the Session will function effectively and efficiently following this schedule

Session met briefly on Thursday, March 3rd to select members to be a part of the work of their Teams.

Faithful Friends

Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. 1 John 4:11

As we struggle through another difficult winter here in the NC Mountains, we are profoundly grateful for the faithful friends who have shoveled their way out of driveways and slid down mountain roads to share in worship on Sunday mornings. I guess you don't call us the "frozen chosen" for nothing! We are also enjoying the new folks and families worshipping with us even in the winter—the fellowship hall is filling up every Sunday!

In addition, our snowbirds continue to call, send notes and emails, and support our ministry from sunny and warm places. We are trying to stay in touch with those who are away as well through our monthly newsletter and our new user friendly website: www.crossnorepresbyterian.org Thanks to Fred and Betty France for their long hours editing the monthly newsletter and creating and maintaining our website.

As our church family stays connected both physically and virtually, I want to share some of my own reflections about what it means to be "faithful friends" to one another. None of us is able to live well without the circle of friends and family who walk with us, help us, and challenge us. Jesus lived and taught that when he nurtured the many disciples who followed him and became the community of "The Way" after Jesus' death and resurrection. You can't be a Christian alone! To follow Jesus means to love God with all your heart, soul, mind, and body; to love others; and to love yourself. It doesn't get more relational than that! Even the Trinity reveals God in communion with God's Self.

Faithful friends go deep with each other—sharing dreams, sorrows, convictions, and blessings. We need one another so that we can talk and pray, laugh and cry, learn and serve, and just be! God promises us, "Where two or three gather together in my name, there I am with you." (Matthew 18:20). Pollster Daniel Yanelovich found that 70 % of Americans say they have few close friends and that they experience this as a void in their lives. May that never be said of our church family. *So, who needs a call, a visit, a note, an email, a twitter from you today??*

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Kathy

Mission Zone

"The church exists by mission as fire exists by burning."

Emil Bruner

The Presbytery of Western North Carolina is known through the denomination for its mission program. A quarter of the budget is apportioned for the abundance of causes, opportunities, agencies and missionaries in the mission program of this Presbytery. Without the help of the Associate for Mission and the hardworking outreach committees (National and Global

Missions, Hunger, Peace and Justice), and task forces (Guatemala Health Ministry, Guatemala Partnership Guatemala Christian Education, Mission Personnel, and Mission Teams) the Presbytery of Western North Carolina could not make this claim.

The Outreach Division strives to provide the resources that congregations need to minister in Christ's name in their own communities and around the world. These resources include events that train, inform, inspire members; speakers and other resources to use within the congregation; mission trip opportunities; consultants to help plan specific mission programs (mission trips, ministry with Hispanics, etc); opportunities for partnership in Guatemala and many more opportunities. We encourage each congregation to support and maximize the gifts, skills and interests of its own members to shape its own ministry in mission.

(This article was taken from the Presbytery of Western North Carolina Website: <http://www.presbyterywnc.org/>.)

Arthur Cottage Report

We would like to thank all those who came out to see the talent show. We had so much fun putting it on. It was a huge success and we were so encouraged by looking out into audience and seeing our church family.

We also want to thank all of you for donating all of the wonderful gifts for our inspirational center downstairs in our cottage. We can be creative, relax, draw, write, knit, scrapbook, and just spend time together doing hobbies. Spending time doing what we all love and enjoy keeps us busy and helps us bond together. We just want to thank everyone for all the love and care that you have shown us.

Love Always, Arthur Cottage

The Deep Purple Season

By Betty Redman

We are in the midst of deep purple shadows that hint at death, the feared, final form of all that lives. We are in the melancholy dusk before the darkness of death and that blinding light of morning that points the way for all of us.

Whether it is an idea, a relationship, a covenant, a flower or creature or a human being, all things sooner or later have their end. The end for some things is so obvious it can't be missed – people, pets, flowers, trees. Other things may die long before the death is recognized and acknowledged – ideas, relationships, and covenants. Some live beyond death and continue to exert influence and determine direction in lives as the memory of them burns an image that can't be forgotten.

Walking through these shadows of death is ominous. We don't like it. We shudder in the clammy cold as we walk the dark trail beneath us, moist with our tears and regrets and leading nowhere except to darkness. We can't see where we're going. Our fears and failures paralyze us. It is not a new story, though it is new to those who enter it for the first time.

Such was the experience of the Disciples when they knew Jesus was going to leave them. They were sad, confused and frightened, but after the shadows and darkness, Jesus was in their midst again. The light had returned! Yet, as they walked the road to Emmaus, they were so deep in their grief they didn't recognize Him. He had

to wait until they had talked it all out of their systems. Then Jesus spoke to them, broke bread with them, and their eyes were opened. They gained a new understanding of what they were to do.

How often have we experienced just what the Disciples did? Whether it is a person to whom we are attached, a pet we love, an idea we want to hold onto, a relationship that has run its course and has no future, or anything else to which we have firmly attached ourselves, we experience deep grief when it is gone. The future is unclear. To keep ourselves in such an unhappy state forbids our seeing the road ahead; yet walking through the shadows is an uneasy but necessary part of our journey.

This is the season of Lent. We think of what we will “give up for Lent.” Chocolate? Eating out? Dating? Alcohol? Watching TV? These are material things and may serve to remind us of the sacrifice of Jesus’ life for us. There is a deeper meaning.

Lent is not a time for us to despair and walk in darkness. It is a time for cleansing ourselves of a past that may bind us to disabling habits and false attachments. It is a time of preparation for putting on a new mantle of discernment and acceptance of God’s purpose for us. It is a time for forgiveness and of love for God and others. It is a time for giving up a part of ourselves to a new understanding. It is a time for us to walk out of the darkness and recognize that we are people of the Light! Do we dare? How we live in this deep purple time is up to each of us.

Become a Member of CPC

Crossnore Presbyterian Church invites you to consider becoming a member of this church. We receive members by profession of faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, by reaffirmation of faith, and by transfer of your membership from another Christian church. If you are only in this community for part of the year, we encourage you to consider becoming an affiliate member. Affiliate membership allows you to have an active connection with this congregation while still maintaining your membership in the community where you live the rest of the year. If you are interested in learning more, please speak to Rev. Campbell or call the church office at 733-1939.

New Member Classes for March 2011

If you are interested in becoming a member of Crossnore Presbyterian Church, you can join as **an active member** by transfer from another church or by affirmation of faith (and baptism if you have not been baptized). You can also become **an affiliate member** if you are an active member of another church but are here for part of the year. Come and learn about the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and what it means to be a member of Crossnore Presbyterian Church. The following dates for our New Members Class are listed below:

- **March 20, 10 a.m., New Members Sunday School Class**
- Barbara Ross will be leading a session on Presbyterian Church History
- **March 27, 10 a.m., New Members Sunday School Class**

- Barbara Ross will be leading a session on Presbyterian Government
- **April 3, 10 a.m., New Members Sunday School Class**
- Pastor Kathy will be leading a session on Presbyterian Beliefs and Reformed Theology
- **April 10, Sunday, 9: 30 a.m.** Session will meet with those who are ready to become members
- **April 17, Sunday** New members will be received during worship service.

More about Mission

by Betty Redman

When you take the opportunity to give to the One Great Hour of Sharing offering on Easter Sunday, you will become a working partner in a ministry of the PCUSA known as the Presbyterian Hunger Program (PHP). Helping alleviate hunger around the world, the work of this ministry supports five program areas: Direct food relief, Development assistance, Influencing public policy, Lifestyle integrity and Education and interpretation.

God calls us to do justice, love mercy and walk humbly. PHP staff coordinates programs that address ways we may do that. In the United States, the ministry supports food pantries, soup kitchens and church gardens that provide fresh produce for those in immediate need. Internationally, PHP provides local seeds to small farmers, builds grain banks, and helps establish food sovereignty in developing countries. PHP offers many programs and opportunities to help the 925 million people in the world who suffer chronic hunger. As Christians, we demonstrate our love for our sisters and brothers by supporting programs that provide help for them

Learning about hunger and how we respond to it begins in the Old Testament. Stories, prophecies, and psalms about God’s concern for justice for oppressed people are there. It is easy to know that God desires us to be instruments of justice. The life and teachings of Jesus in the New Testament make clear his love for the poor, the hungry and the downtrodden. We are called to follow him in this love and ministry. Giving to the One Great Hour of Sharing is one way to carry out our God’s mission.

. Check out the bulletin board display in the Sunday school hall way. Pictures and stories provide more information about the One Great Hour of Sharing and the Presbyterian Hunger Program.



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

2nd Sunday each month – *Five Cents a Meal Offering*; and, *Canned Goods, Groceries and Pet Food for Volunteer Avery*

Last Sunday of each month – Newsletter article deadline – drop in box at church, email Betty France at fdnbty@charter.net or call Betty at 828-387-2197

March 13, Worship and communion returns to Sanctuary – hooray for warmer weather.

March 20, Youth Group, immediately following worship the first and third Sunday of the month. A meal will be provided. If you would like to help please call Shaquera Alls at 733-9426 or email: allss@lmc.edu

Wednesday

March 9th, Ash Wednesday: the beginning of Lent

Thursday

All Thursdays

Information for the Sunday Church Bulletin - due in the morning – 9 AM

Announcements

We Need Your Email Address. We are trying to cut costs by sending The Crossnore Chronicle via email. Please send a request to

crosPRES@yahoo.com if you would like to receive newsletter electronically.

Drop boxes for The Crossnore Chronicle Newsletter and Weekly Worship Bulletin, are located at the interior entrance to the Fellowship Hall.

Volunteers are needed to assist with the copying, folding and/or mailing of the bulletins (weekly) and newsletters (monthly). If you can help, please contact Annmarie Dyak at 733-1939

The Church Kitchen needs contributions: regular and decaf coffee, hot chocolate, tea bags, juice (apple, grape, etc.), cookies, crackers, muffins, coffee cakes, chips, napkins, and coffee filters (12 cup round). If you enjoy the refreshments before and after church, please make a contribution and help us reduce our cost for these wonderful fellowship times. Contact Tommie Tennant if you have any questions: 733-5232.

We need Sunday school teachers for all classes. If you would be willing to help, please contact David Hege. We particularly need teachers for the youth and would like to have our adult members get to know our youth.

Worship with us even if you are out of town. The weekly worship bulletin is now available electronically for our out of town congregation or the homebound. Please send a request to crosPRES@yahoo.com if you would like to receive the worship bulletin electronically and the Sundays you would like to receive it.

Prayer Cloth Ministry has been *temporarily discontinued*, but will start again later this year. Please contact Lorraine Alls for more information: allsrevlb@yahoo.com.

Pledge Cards: Please return your pledge cards as soon as possible in order for us to update our record(s). If you have an email address please send that to us as well and let us know if you have any news to share. Committees are forming now and we need your help and support. Please let us know your area(s) of interest.

