

Cross Roads Communiqué

Pastors Gary & Lisa Lyon Phone: 724-845-1901 E-mail: crcpc@windstream.net

April 2015

Experience the wonder of Christ...Grow & Thrive in your faith...Our hands reaching your hands...as we share the Spiritual adventure

April Worship Opportunities Sundays at 10 AM



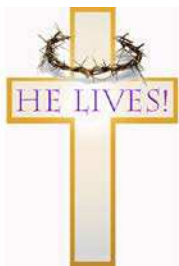
Holy Week Vesper Service
Tuesday, March 31 – 7 PM



April 2 at 7 PM
“You Can’t Do That!”
Communion



April 3
12:30 PM – Community
Worship at Holy
Innocents, Third Street,
Leechburg
7:00 PM – Scripture and Song at CRCPC



April 5, Easter
Sunrise Service
7:30 AM at 1st United Methodist
Rev. Gary Lyon preaching.
Light breakfast following worship.

Easter Worship, 10 AM
“The Lord Is Risen Indeed!”
Communion

April 12
“Good Doubt/Bad Doubt”
Commissioning the Mission Team

April 19
Rev. Peter Bower, Guest Minister
“Jesus Appears to His Disciples”

April 26
“Doing the Hard Work”
Mission Team Report



Deacons’ Clothing Drive April 5 - 19

Please leave your donations of gently worn/used clothes inside the glass doors. No shoes, belts or purses, please. Thanks for your support!



Our team members have been praying for a lot of folks lately and will continue to do so without end. We are up-dating our prayer teams. If you’re already a team member, we’ll keep you on the list unless you tell us otherwise. If you’d like to become a team member, call or e-mail the church office. You can receive prayer needs and requests via telephone or e-mail (your choice). Let us know if you want to become part of this ministry. Want more info? Please talk with Gary or Lisa.

Spring Flower Sale
Saturday, May 2
Pick-Up: 8 to 11 AM
Geraniums and Super Petunias
4-1/2” Pots - \$4.00 each



Order Deadline: April 21
Proceeds benefit Mission/Outreach Team Trips and Endeavors. Use order form on page 5 or call or e-mail church office.

Rwanda Partnership Prayer Vigil Saturday, April 25 8 AM to 4 PM



Sponsored by the
Kiskiminetas Presbytery
Rwanda Partnership Team

Two Sites
North: Brookville Presbyterian Church, Brookville, PA
South: Calvary Presbyterian Church, Indiana, PA
Stay for 30 minutes or 8 hours and be in prayer for our sister churches in Rwanda. Our sister churches are regularly praying for us!

Prayer, light snacks, conversation, and community time with old and new found friends.

Cross Roads’ sister church is the Nyarurama Church which is part of the Mpushi Parish in Rwanda. We have been partners since 2006. The pastor of these churches is Pastor Mukarwego Mary Irene.

Opportunities for mission, ministry & fun!

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March at a Glance

- 2 – Maundy Thurs. Worship & Communion, 7 PM
- 3 – Good Friday Community Service, 12:30 PM at Holy Innocents, Third Street
- 3 – Good Friday Scripture and Song, 7 PM, at CRCPC
- 5 – Easter Sunrise Service, 7:30 AM at 1st United Methodist Church – light breakfast will follow
- 5 – Easter Worship & Communion, 10 AM

- 5 – Clothing Drive Begins
- 7 – Session & Deacons Meetings, 7 PM
- 18 – Kiski Pby. Spring Leadership Event, 9-3
- 18 – Pot Love Dinner, Noon
- 19 – Clothing Drive Ends
- 21 – Spring Flower Sale Order Deadline
- 25 – Rwanda Partnership Prayer Vigil, 8 AM – 4 PM (see location info below)



ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING "I WAS HUNGRY AND YOU GAVE ME FOOD." MATTHEW 25:35

OGHS offerings will be dedicated Easter Sunday morning. Fish will be collected through April 12. Thank you for your generous donations toward this special offering.

Need a good meal on weekends?
Tired of eating alone?
Food budget stretched thin?
Pot Love Dinners
are for you!

SATURDAY, APRIL 18 at NOON

A warm welcome and a hot, nutritious **FREE** meal. Reservations appreciated.



Blessing of the Bikes

Get ready for the season!
Sunday May 3, 11:30 am-3:00 pm
Blessing at 12 noon

Leechburg Volunteer Fire Company Grounds
(bottom of First Street in Leechburg)

35 mile **Tribute Ride** begins at 1 PM
For more info, call 724-331-0774 or go to
www.crcpc.org

Flag ceremony, Blessing, Music, Food, Drinks,
50/50, Tee shirts, Pins, Motorcycle Games,
Chinese auction

Sponsored by Leechburg Volunteer Fire Company.
Blessing by Cross Roads Community Presbyterian Church.

The Silent Auction continues through April 19.
Stop in, check out the items and place your bid. All funds raised will be split 50% to youth group ministry and 50% to CRCPC's general fund.



Getting Down to Business

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Session Munchies:

- Thanked Sue Ellen Rupert for watching several videos through our Guide One Insurance program. By watching the videos she has saved the church approximately \$500 on our insurance bill. We'll follow through on some of the safety issues that have been revealed!
- Received report of Kiski Presbytery commissioner Sharon Nelmes from the February 14, 2015 meeting at Calvary Presbyterian Church in Indiana, PA.
- Approved use of the Social Hall for outside groups and individuals on March 28. All forms completed and on hand.
- The monthly treasurer's report was received, payment of all bills authorized, and regular use of invested funds approved.
- Received report from Gary on electronic giving possibilities beyond our current automatic withdrawal program. No further action at this time.
- The following ministry teams reported: Mission Outreach, Grow the Church, Church School, Liturgical Arts, Property, & Sanctuary Piano Task Group.
- Upcoming events discussed: Palm Sunday Breakfast, Mission Trip to N.J., Blessing of the Bikes, Cobs and Cores, Saturday Evening Worship.



Need Offering Envelopes? Call 724-845-1901, e-mail crcpc@windstream.net, or sign up on the sheet at the First St. door. We'll get them ready for you.

Financial Corner March 1- 31, 2015

Income: \$18,037.65
Expenses: \$21,000.93
 * \$2,963.28

* The actual balance in the account for day to day bills is (-\$1,792.00). Memorial and Maint. & Improvement funds were used and additional donations received to cover some expenses this month, i.e. new piano & dishwasher repair. Therefore, even though the balance is still in the red, it is not quite as low as shown by income vs. expenses.

{ **April Bills Estimate** \$11,500.00}
 { **May Bills Estimate** \$9,000.00}



Electronic Giving: Fast, Easy & Secure

Support the work of our church through Electronic Giving. Have your contribution debited from your checking or savings account once a month and transferred directly into the church account safely and electronically – you'll never have to remember your checkbook again! **We'd love for you to get started.** Contact the church office for an authorization form today.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

- 2 Bob Rupert
- 3 Miranda Kumpf
- 4 Mathias Botti; Sandy Troiano
- 5 Bill Dudek; Aidan Renwick;
- 5 Carrie Riggle; Tim Thomas
- 6 Joseph M. Borello
- 8 *William & Patricia Kupas
- 9 Lindsay Sekeres
- 10 Walter McGee
- 11 Vance Shearer
- 11 *Richard & Katherine Snyder
- 14 Brittany Carroll; David Mays
- 15 Jonathan McLaughlin
- 15 *Debbie & Eugene Wanichko
- 16 *Anita & Robert Leonard
- 17 *Sarah & Alan Braden; Betty Sendry
- 18 Gary Smith
- 19 Joanne Simon
- 20 Corey & Allison Whitesell
- 21 April Covey
- 23 Bruce Altmeyer; Elizabeth Cline
- 23 Kathleen Smith; Kathy Vargo
- 24 Matthew Cockroft
- 24 *Vernon & Anna Mae Speicher
- 27 Brienne Ralph
- 29 Margaret Schultz
- 30 David Sober

*Anniversary

March, 2015 Memorials

In MEMORY Of:

Ellen Bush
 “
 Carmen Debernardi
 “

Given By:

Mr. & Mrs. Alan Tarr
 Jessica Weissman
 Pete & Helen Wasyluk
 Merle & Rosemarie Sober

More Opportunities, News, & Information...

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The Leechburg Food Bank is staffed by volunteers from area churches. Cross Roads volunteers are scheduled for the months of March, July and November. Packing is Tuesday (the day before distribution) at

Noon and distribution is usually the last Wednesday of the month at 10 AM. If you would like to help, call the church office for dates in July & November and then, see Paul Shaner at the Food Bank approximately ½ hour prior to packing/distribution start time. Thanks!

Salt of the Earth: Help keep the cupboard stocked!

Our ministry to chemotherapy patients is meaningful to everyone involved. Please help us refill our stock. **We need instant soups, instant cereal, pudding, and ginger ale.** Items can be placed in the cabinet at the bottom of the 1st Street stairs.



The Mission Team's "helping hands" are willing to come and lend them to you. We'll help with your projects (painting, repairs, simple carpentry, etc.). Call or e-mail the church. We'll set a time to help!

2015 PER CAPITA!
Will you help Session
pay our allotment?
\$27.05/ confirmed member

Office hours

Through mid-May

Monday	11 AM – 4 PM
Tuesday	9 AM – 4 PM
Thursday	9 AM – 4 PM
Friday	12 PM – 4 PM

Hours may vary from time to time, so if you don't reach Karen, please leave a message or send an e-mail and she will get back to you.

Memorial Gift Wish List (Adopted by Session in 2013)

When a loved one passes away, CRCPC often receives financial gifts given in their memory. We have several memorial funds, including:

- The Irene Weimer Fund
- Student Scholarship Fund
- Children's Relief Fund
- Parks Family Memorial Fund
- Lora Phillips Memorial Fund (National Youth Triennium)
- General Memorial Fund

Session prefers that gifts to the General Memorial Fund be undesignated. This allows session to use the money for what is most needed or in the way that will help the church the most.

Sometimes families choose to make a designated gift to the General Memorial Fund. They might ask the session/pastors what is needed, so we have a wish list that Session approved for distribution in December, 2013.

- Projector for worship in the Social Hall
- Stained Glass Window Repair
- ~~New Sanctuary Piano~~
- Color Copier or Laser Color Printer
- Replace Flooring outside Ladies Restroom
- Video screen in sanctuary
- New Ramp Carpet in Social Hall
- Storage Area Repair under front steps
- Drainage on West side of church
- Deck outside the Office Entrance
- Freezer for Kitchen
- Commercial Refrigerator
- Additional Cabinets in the Kitchen Area
- Pew Cushions
- Stipend for Tech Person: video camera, website, worship prep.
- Replacement of all crash bars/locks
- Central air at the manse

This list will be updated in the coming year:

Dedication of Sanctuary Piano

The family of John and Gertie Simon donated \$4,000 to purchase a new piano for the sanctuary in their parents' memory. It wasn't possible to find a piano for \$4000 or less, so various Session members and others have given additional money to make up the difference. The piano will be dedicated on Easter Sunday morning. The old piano in the sanctuary will replace the one in the basement.

And Still More...

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Attention all University/ College/ Technical School Students:

Cross Roads Community Presbyterian Church has established a scholarship for any traditional or adult student who is currently enrolled as an undergraduate or graduate student in a university/college/technical school. This one-time award is for \$1,000.00.

Eligible students must be a member of CRCPC and be a sophomore, junior or senior undergraduate or a graduate student who has earned at least a 3.0 GPA.

Applications will be available in the church office beginning January 1, 2015 or can be downloaded from the church web page. Students must complete the scholarship application and submit it with official university/college/technical school transcripts and letters of recommendation no later than June 1, 2015. The applicant must also submit a 500 word essay on "The Importance of Giving Back." The scholarship recipient (and congregation) will be notified by July 15, 2015.

The selection committee will consist of at least 3 CRCPC members, one of whom will be a session member, and the selection process will be a blind one. Students awarded the scholarship may not apply in subsequent years. However, students may apply more than once if they were not a past recipient of the scholarship.



Thanks to everyone who participated, donated, worked at, or supported in any way our recent **Spaghetti Dinner**. \$807.80 was raised for our church school fund. These

proceeds will be used for church school ministries and summer camp scholarships.

Helen Balla would like to thank everyone for your many prayers and get well cards during her recent injury and recovery.

Kiskiminetas Presbytery Spring Leadership Event April 18 – 9 AM to 3 PM

Calvary Presbyterian Church, Indiana

Keynote Speaker: Rev. Kenneth J. McFayden

Professor of Ministry & Leadership Development at

Union Presbyterian Seminary, Richmond, VA

Everyone is welcome to attend. Lunch cost: \$5.00. For more info, schedule for the day, workshop guide, and registration forms, please see Gary or Lisa.



Welcome Nolan Harrison Reilly into the CRCPC Family. Nolan was baptized on March 29 and is pictured here with his parents, Brandon & Karen (Lyon) Reilly.

WEBPAGE UPDATED

Go to www.crcpc.org and check it out!

Volunteers Wanted for 2015 Kiskiminetas Presbytery Mission Trip!



Tentative plans have been made to return to New Orleans in the Fall, where Hurricane Katrina recovery continues. If you weren't able to participate with

CRCPC in April, why not come with the Kiski Presbytery group in the Fall?



Spring Flower Sale Saturday, May 2, 2015 Pick-Up 8:00-11:00 AM



Order Deadline: April 21
Flower Sale Funds used for Mission Outreach Endeavors locally and nationally.

Name _____

Telephone No. _____

Please indicate number of each color:

Geraniums: 4 1/2" Pot \$4.00/each

_____ Red _____ White

_____ Salmon

Super Petunias: 4 1/2" Pot \$4.00/each

_____ Red _____ White

_____ Blue _____ Magenta

Total due: # of flowers _____ x \$4/each = \$ _____

**Cross Roads Community
Presbyterian Church**

271 Main Street
Leechburg, PA 15656-1038



Dated Material

**Experience the wonder of Christ.....Grow & Thrive in your faith;
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From the Lyon's Den

"Greet one another with a holy kiss."
Romans 16:16

If you approach me with your lips puckered, I'm running the other way! I know what it says in the Bible but those kisses and hugs will get you trouble. Just ask me, I know!

I attended the 2104 General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church U.S.A. I was sitting with the representatives from Kiskiminetas Presbytery. The discussion at the General Assembly on this particular day was, *"What definition of marriage should be in the Book of Order?"*

It was a hot debate with folk from each side spewing scripture to affirm their position. When the vote was taken the definition of marriage was changed. It now reads that marriage is a *"unique commitment between two people, traditionally a man and a woman, to love and support each other for the rest of their lives."* There was crying and there was rejoicing following that very, very close vote.

I was not happy about how the decision came to be and was pretty upset. My good friend, Bill, a pastor from the eastern part of the state was sitting behind me. He was rejoicing in the decision!

We gave each other a 'holy hug' in his time of joy and my time of stress. **Click....Click...Click!**

A photographer from the Associated Press took a picture of two guys hugging each other. The 'holy hug!' Since that time my picture has been in hundreds of papers around the world. I am now a stock photo in the Associated Press files with a caption that says I am celebrating the decision of the Presbyterian Church U.S.A. on the definition of marriage.

Incorrect!

My phone rang last week. A cousin I hadn't heard from in 3 or 4 years was in Wilmington, NC and had just opened his newspaper. There was the 'holy hug' photo staring at him. He laughed. A friend sent me a link to the Washington Post. There I am. An elder from a church in Kiskiminetas Presbytery asked me my sexual preference when she saw the 'holy hug' in the Indiana, PA paper. She was serious and I've been married for 36 years!

Holy kisses? Holy hugs? I don't think so!
You just never know where a camera is lurking.

Keep the faith, my friends. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever. Alleluia.

Blessings...Gary