



Messages

Monthly Newsletter, Community Presbyterian Church of Cambria

November 2011



2011 COMMUNITY ECUMENICAL ADVENT SERVICE AT CPCC ON NOVEMBER 30

Worshippers of many churches in Cambria will present the **15th Annual Community Ecumenical Advent Concert and Celebration** on **Wednesday evening, November 30**, in our sanctuary, 7:00 PM.

The program features a many-voice choir, soloists, instrumentalists, a liturgical dancer, and lectors in a program of music, song, dance, and Scripture readings. Last year's celebration was absolutely beautiful and was enjoyed by a full house.

Bring your friends. The program is free, including refreshments at the end.



SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12

SPEND BIG BUCKS AT THE ANNUAL PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S CRAFT BAZAAR

IT'S FOR YOU, AND IT'S FOR MISSION

The annual **PW CRAFT BAZAAR** will be **Saturday, November 12**, from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM. There will be a wide range of handmade crafts and home-baked goods for sale—plus a raffle.

We need home-baked goods for the Country Kitchen and Tea Room. Contact **Jeannette Breglio** (927-1557) for specifics.

All proceeds go to PW mission projects.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN TO HEAR ABOUT HOPE HOUSE ORPHANAGE IN CHINA ON NOVEMBER 3

The **Presbyterian Women** luncheon speaker on **Thursday, November 3** (12:00 NOON, in Fellowship Hall), will be **Erin Copeland** from **Threshold Ministries**. She will tell us about the **Hope House Orphanage** in China. Currently, the orphanage houses 220 children. In addition to telling us the inspiring story of the orphanage, Erin will bring some items that the children have made (perhaps some Christmas shopping?). This is a wonderful Christian ministry to orphans and abandoned children located right on China's border of North Korea. Remember that we always welcome to our luncheons friends and husbands (including husbands who are friends).

The deadline for purchasing tickets (\$10 for the lunch) is Monday, October 31. Pre-purchase is necessary; no tickets are available the day of the event.





Thirty-three CCPC members and friends celebrate their birthdays in November:

Dick DeLauer (Nov 2).
 Barbara Mayberry (Nov 3).
 Dirk Reed, Gene Wagner (Nov 4).
 John Taylor, Mike Willis (Nov 5).
 Valerie Haupt, Peggy Hughell,
 Bambi Fields (Nov 9).
 Mary Woelfel (Nov 10).
 Joyburton Maynes, Monty Rice
 (Nov 11).
 Lana Cochrun (Nov 12).
 Mark Proper, Bob Wade, Carol
 Wilcox (Nov 14).
 Karen Davis, Jack Della-Bitta (Nov
 18).
 Steve Castleberry (Nov 20).
 Beverly DeLauer, Susan Foreman,
 Brian Stroh (Nov 22).
 Margaret Sullivan (Nov 24).
 Pam Proper (Nov 25).
 Sheri Baldwin, Barbara Munson
 (Nov 26).
 Martha Uhey (Nov 27).
 Clarice Jennings, Roland Soucie,
 Don Thomas (Nov 28).
 JoAn Roper, Mary Wagner (Nov
 29).
 Dan Balfe (Nov 30).



Eight CPCC couples celebrate November wedding anniversaries:

Harry & Sandra Redmond (Nov 7).
 Paul & Barbara Munson (Nov 9).
 Fred & Pat Sommers (Nov 10).



OPEN HEART, OPEN MIND CONTINUES THIS MONTH TO NOVEMBER 14

On Monday mornings, 10:00 to 11:45 AM, **Open Heart, Open Mind Bible Study for Women** is studying the New Testament book *Philippians* at the church, beginning in Fellowship Hall. There are two Mondays left in the fall term: November 7 and 14.

Each week there is a brief "coffee" time, a meeting in smaller groups in which we discuss the week's lesson, and a larger group (lecture) teaching time. Bible study questions are the basis for discussion groups. We encourage women to spend time on these questions during the week so that the group discussion is based on what the **Bible** says. Discussion groups close with a time of prayer.

Off for the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays, **Open Heart, Open Mind** will resume on January 9 and continue until March 26, 2012.

Open Heart, Open Mind seeks to make available to our entire community a Bible study in which women discover for themselves, in the company of other women, God's words to us today. Our purpose is to grow nearer to Jesus Christ through both corporate and independent study of the Bible. We believe the Bible is God's Word to us and is true and living (that is, will speak to us in our time and place, and can transform us). Come and bring a friend.

Ernie & Pat Moreno (Nov 14).
 Dan & Linda Balfe (Nov 20).
 Brian & Dale Griffin (Nov 22).
 Jack & Lydia Marzano (Nov 25).
 Loran & Valerie Tacker (Nov 27).

HOW TO REACH US



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The church directory (obtain in the office)
 lists phone numbers.

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Presbyterian Church (USA)

Web Site: www.pcusa.org



In late October, I spent three days in Los Angeles reading ordination examinations. There were approximately 40 of us from across the western United States, about equally divided between pastors and elders (or teaching elders and ruling elders as the new Book of Order calls us). The days were long, starting at 8:00 AM and going until 10:00 PM. And it didn't help that I was assigned to read with the polity exams. That's not my favorite subject. I was glad to wrap up and come home on Wednesday.

I was more than a little surprised the following week when a member of the congregation said, "You know, we ought to charge the presbytery for your time when you get called to one of these." Frankly, that's so wrong on a couple of levels.

First, the congregation is not going to get short shrift. Sunday is still coming and before I left, bulletin material, scripture verses, hymns and a basic sermon outline had to be ready so that the staff can be doing their part in preparing for the next service. That's all on top of preparing the sermon for that week. And once I got back, there was still the writing and preparation of the sermon to be delivered the coming Sunday. That meant a particularly long Thursday as well as coming in on my day off and on Saturday.

So why do it? Why bother? That brings up the second aspect. It is also part of my ordination vows. G-14.0405 b. (9) asks, "Will you be a faithful minister, proclaiming the good news in Word and Sacrament, teaching faith, and caring for people? Will you be active in government and discipline, serving in the governing bodies of the church, and in your ministry will you try and show the love and justice of Jesus Christ?" Our elders and deacons are asked this same question when they are ordained and installed. I answered, "Yes!" So I participate in presbytery, in committees as well as other things that may come up from a sense of obligation.

But even more than that, I participate from a deep seated belief that it is the right thing to do. One of the things I appreciate about the Presbyterian Church is the way we govern ourselves. It is a democratic form of government wherein we elect people to represent us and to govern us. Our founding fathers patterned our federal and state governments on these Presbyterian principles. Our leaders do not inherit their office; they are elected.

Whether we are talking about the government or the church, it is difficult to complain about what is going on if you don't take part in the process. It is true of all levels of government, and it is true of all levels of the church. We have a duty and an obligation to serve the larger body even as we have a duty and an obligation to serve the church here. Many blessings.

Pastor Tracy

CPCC SESSION CREATES SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO PLAN A REGULAR CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP SERVICE

In the September 2011 edition of *MESSAGES*, Pastor Tracy wrote: "Your pastors and Session are not ignorant of or immune to the concerns that a number have expressed over the loss of the praise team. Neither are we unaware that we are a musically divided congregation. At a recently brainstorming meeting over the issue of music, we felt that the best solution would be to start a second service that would be entirely contemporary in its design and style. Our primary service would remain pretty much what it is today."

On October 18, the Session voted to create a committee to plan the specifics of a second worship service, considering how other congregations do an alternative, contemporary worship. Committee members will be pastors Tracy and Chris, a representative of the worship, membership, Christian education youth, and long-range planning committees, and a representative of worshipers likely to attend the new service.

The committee will report back to Session with a plan to include:

- who the service is designed for and how they will be reached,
- time and location of worship,
- plans for music/musicians, worship leader(s) and other worship elements and order,
- logistic considerations (audiovisual/parking/ushering/ etc), and
- a suggested time line for implementation.

The Session has charged the Long-Range Planning Committee with responsibility for appointing and organizing the committee. We're sure that the congregation will hear from the new committee in coming months as it seeks input.

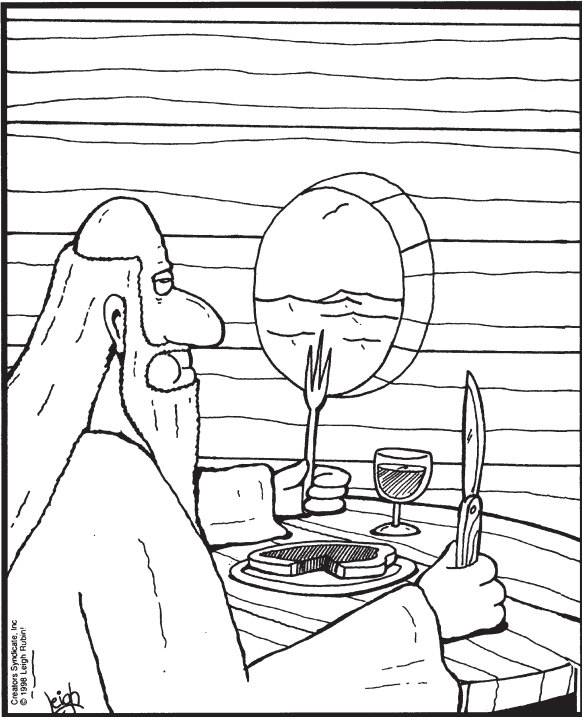
Messages

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The editor may edit copy consistent with his interpretation of style and taste.

Jim Ragan
Editor



**Unbeknownst to most biblical scholars,
there were actually three cows on board
Noah's Ark.**

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