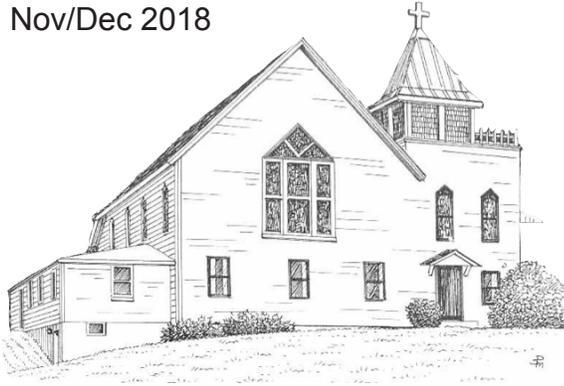


Nov/Dec 2018



# Crestviews

Newsletter of the  
Crestview Community Church, PCUSA  
in Callery, PA

Loving God ♦ Following Jesus ♦ Serving All

## Advent Communion

**Sunday, December 2,  
11 a.m.**

We will step into the new Christian year as we begin Advent with communion. This celebration helps us center our journey through the hustle and bustle of the season.

## Poinsettia Orders

It's time to order our Christmas poinsettias. Your gift can be given in someone's honor or memory. Forms will be in the bulletins or you may call or email the church office to place an order. Deadline is Tuesday, December 4.

## Christmas Eve Worship

**Monday, December 24,  
8:30 p.m.**

Carols and candlelight will lead us to the edge of the manger to kneel as we celebrate the birth of the Savior of the world.

## Thanksgiving Baskets

The Deacons are putting together baskets for neighbors in need for Thanksgiving. Bring your donations to the church by Sunday, the 18th. If you have the name and contact information for a family who you'd like to receive this gift, please get that to the church office or Barb O'Barto.

## Annual Congregational Meeting

**Sunday, December 2, Noon**

Following worship we will gather in the Fellowship Hall for refreshments and a time to look back at the events of the last year. We'll do the usual annual meeting reports and business and enjoy some pictures, too.

## Christmas Pageant

**A Dramatic Presentation of the Christmas Story  
Sunday, December 16, 11 a.m.**

As part of the worship service, our children will bring to life the wondrous events surrounding the birth of Jesus Christ. Practices are taking place as the children meet weekly on Mondays after school and for a dress rehearsal on Saturday, December 15. You won't want to miss the recitations, the costumes, the singing and the opportunity to sing along with familiar carols. Please keep the children and leaders in prayer, as we look forward to this exciting event.

## Congregational Christmas Dinner

**Sunday, December 16, Noon**

We'll have a Christmas dinner following the Children's presentation of their Christmas Pageant. We extend an invitation to all our members, friends and families. Meat, rolls, drinks and table service will be provided. You are asked to bring a side dish or Christmas cookies to share.

## Christmas Decorating

**Saturday, December 8,  
time t.b.a.**

Come help us hang the greens as we decorate the church for the Advent and Christmas seasons. Contact Barb O'Barto if you can help. The more the merrier!



## Sundays in Advent

### Advent 1

December 2—*A New  
Shoot*; Communion

### Advent 2

December 9—  
*Preparing the Way*

### Advent 3

December 16—  
Children's Christmas  
Pageant

### Advent 4

December 23—  
*From Lowly Judah*

## November Calendar

### Sunday, November 4

All Saints Worship, 11 a.m.

### Saturday, November 10

Joint Youth Group

### Monday, November 12

Kids' Club Pageant Practice,  
4:45-5:45 p.m.

### Tuesday, November 13

Presbytery at Aliquippa, 6 p.m.

### Wednesday, November 14

Senior Center Bible Study,  
10:30 a.m.

### Thursday, November 15

Choir Practice, 7:30 p.m.

### Sunday, November 18

Thanksgiving Celebration,  
11 a.m.

### Monday, November 19

Kids' Club Pageant Practice,  
4:45-5:45 p.m.

### Wednesday, November 21

Senior Center Bible Study,  
10:30 a.m.

### Thursday, November 22

*Thanksgiving Day*

### Monday, November 26

Kids' Club Pageant Practice,  
4:45-5:45 p.m.

### Wednesday, November 28

Senior Center Bible Study,  
10:30 a.m.

### Thursday, November 29

Choir Practice, 7:30 p.m.

## In the Mail

### Pittsburgh Concert Chorale's

**"Sounds of the Season"**

### Holiday Concert

Friday, Nov. 30, 7:30 p.m. &

Sunday, Dec. 2, 4 p.m.

Ingomar United Methodist  
Church

Saturday, Dec. 1, 7:30 p.m.

Fox Chapel Presbyterian Church

For information call 412-635-  
7654 or visit [www.PCCsing.org](http://www.PCCsing.org)

## From the Pastor's Desk

**"The days are surely coming when I will fulfill my promises, says the Lord...a righteous branch will spring up..."—Jeremiah 33:14**

I turned my wall calendar over to November this morning, only about a week late. As so often happens at this time of the year one day's activities blur into the next. Looking at all that needs to happen to get ready for Advent and Christmas while still attending to the things on this side of Thanksgiving can seem overwhelming. It's sort of like looking at a too big stack of firewood that's been dumped in the driveway and needs to be stacked in the back yard. How will it ever all get done? One log, one wheel barrow load at a time.

On my calendar, a gift from one of you dear parishioners, is a quote from Francis of Assisi—"Start by doing what's necessary, then do what's possible; and suddenly you are doing the impossible." As we head into these busy days this sage advice rings with positive power. Just like every year we'll be busy—still the pies will get baked, the presents chosen and wrapped, the social commitments fulfilled. Some days will run long on drama and some nights will be short on rest.

What the quote above leaves out is what Francis needs not say, but we may need to. Begin each day centering life on God, pause at mid-day to stay connected to God's Spirit, conclude each day with thanksgivings for that which has gone before. For God doesn't want us to be overwhelmed, but to know the God's own promises have been and will continue to be fulfilled. The righteous branch that sprang up for David was a Holy Covenant. God promises never to forsake God's people. As our Christian year concludes and the new year dawns with Advent, we are ever confident that God draws near, again and yet again.

May your season be blessed, one day at a time.

Faithfully yours,



Pastor Bob

## Partnership Gratitude

Thank You to all who participated in our partnership visit. You made Abusa Lomax feel deeply welcomed and abundantly loved. You shared your homes, your dinner tables, your vast culinary skills, and most importantly, your joy in the Lord, with him. He treasures these days and takes many wonderful memories with him as he returns to serve the Chiphoola church and carry on his other duties in Zomba. It is a great blessing to be in partnership.

## Soup Cook Off Winners

The tables were lined up with crockpots and stockpots as the congregation descended with tasting cups and worked their way up and down the lineup of nine soups. From chili to ham & split pea, wedding to vegetable, the aromas were a delight. After all the compliments were gathered in, the winner of the day was Wanda Balfour with her Italian Wedding Soup. Second went to Claudia Ripper and third place was a tie between Dana Beers and Sharon Schwartz. Thanks to Kelly Rader for organizing this delightful time.

## Entryway Project

A big thanks to all who came out to make the railing painting go smoothly. On November 7 the carpet was installed. On the same day, the concrete was poured from the ramp to Kline Avenue.

We are just about finished with this year's goals. Hallelujah!! The porch roof will come in the Spring and work on the trim moulding in the entryway will continue into the winter months.

We look forward to a grand celebration and re-dedication of the rebuilt ramp and retaining wall and our remodeled entryway. At the risk of forgetting someone, we want to thank all those who've helped this Fall: Gary & Sharon Schwartz, Clark Trauterman, Steve & Tammy Kozar, Claudia Ripper, Sandy Marburger, Denny Hasenflu, Janice Baker, Wayne Roccia and Pastor Bob. We are grateful to Ray Hudic for the railing construction and Randy Buzard for the concrete work. As always we are grateful for the prayers and financial gifts that have made this project possible.



The 19th annual sweater drive is underway as local Presbyterian churches collect sweaters through Dec. 16. The drive encourages congregations to care for their neighborhoods, giving sweaters to neighbors in need in their own community first.

Since 2000, the Children's Museum has collected more than 35,500 sweaters. Place your donations in the sweater barrel in our Fellowship Hall.

## Crestview, Old Union & Plains Youth Group

**Saturday, December 15, 10 a.m.**

We'll meet at St Peter's Lutheran Church in Evans City to help them prepare for the Christmas food distribution. After lunch at Subway, we'll go to the outdoor ice rink for some skating. Please mark your calendars!

On November 10, the group served the homeless in Pittsburgh through a ministry on the North Side called Pittsburgh ALIVE.

## Lighthouse's New Location

The executive offices and food pantry of the The Lighthouse Foundation have a new place to call home at 116 Browns Hill Road Valencia, Pa 16059. Conveniently located less than a mile south from the East Cruikshank location, the new property boasts of more space and a better layout which will help us serve the increased need in the community more efficiently.

The staff and volunteers spent the first two weeks of October packing, moving, unpacking, and organizing to get ready for the October 15th food pantry re-opening. A grand opening event will be announced in the coming weeks to invite donors, businesses, and the community to tour the new facility and meet the staff and volunteers who make it their mission to provide hope and change lives.

## Celebrations

### November Birthdays

- 10 Mary Marburger
- 12 David Cerra
- 22 Keiran Mazzoni
- 25 Kim Fyock

### December Birthdays

- 2 Darla Gates
- 7 Greg Schwartz
- 12 Elaine Settlemire
- 21 Carol Baker  
Mark Norton  
Cooper Stadtfeld
- 26 Mary Koepke

### November Anniversaries

- 3 Chuck & Donna Cahall
- 9 Bob & ChrisAnn Goossen

*If you would like to have a name added to/or removed from the Celebrations Column, please contact the office.*



### Crestviews Crestview Community Church, PCUSA

210 Kline Avenue, Box AA  
Callery, PA 16024  
724-538-8559

Email:  
[crestviewpcusa@  
zoominternet.net](mailto:crestviewpcusa@zoominternet.net)

Website:  
[www.crestviewpcusa.org](http://www.crestviewpcusa.org)

Facebook:  
Crestview Community Church

Crestviews is published monthly except January and July. Please have submissions to the church office by the 20th of the prior month. If you wish to receive our newsletter, send us a note with your email or physical address.

    **DECEMBER CALENDAR**    

*We worship each Sunday at 11 a.m.*

**Sunday, December 2**

*First Sunday of Advent*

Communion, 11 a.m.

Annual Meeting, 12:15 p.m.

**Monday, December 3**

Kids' Club Pageant Practice,

4:45-5:45 p.m.

Session, 7 p.m.

**Wednesday, December 5**

Senior Center Bible Study,

10:30 a.m.

**Thursday, December 6**

Choir Practice, 7:30 p.m.

**Saturday, December 8**

Crestview Christmas

Decorating, TBD

**Sunday, December 9**

*Second Sunday of Advent*

**Monday, December 10**

Kids' Club Pageant Practice,

4:45-5:45 p.m.

**Wednesday, December 12**

Senior Center Bible Study,

10:30 a.m.

**Thursday, December 13**

Choir Practice, 7:30 p.m.

**Saturday, December 15**

Kids' Club Pageant Dress

Rehearsal, 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

Joint Youth Group

@ St. Peter's, 10 a.m.

**Sunday, December 16**

*Third Sunday of Advent*

Christmas Pageant, 11 a.m.

Christmas Luncheon, 12 p.m.

**Wednesday, December 19**

Senior Center Bible Study,

10:30 a.m.

**Thursday, December 20**

Choir Practice, 7:30 p.m.

**Sunday, December 23**

*Fourth Sunday of Advent*

**Monday, December 24**

*Christmas Eve* Worship,

8:30 p.m.

**Tuesday, December 25**

*Christmas*

**Monday, December 31**

*New Year's Eve*

**Tuesday, January 1**

*New Year's Day*