

December 2011

The Chimes



C O M M U N I T Y P R E S B Y T E R I A N C H U R C H



REFLECTIONS FROM PASTOR DENNIS

December – already? When I was very young, my grandmother and I would talk about how long my days seemed and that it took forever to go from Monday to Saturday, and she'd share how time flew for her. Well, I must be getting older – not only the weeks and months, but the years are beginning to fly by one after another; seems that it was only yesterday that the year began.

On Sunday, November 27th, we celebrated the 1st Sunday of Advent. On that Sunday we focused upon hope; we lit the first candle of Advent, put up the Christmas Tree, decorated it with Chrismons, and we set up our Nativity. These activities and the Sundays leading up to Christmas are to prepare us to celebrate once again the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Here's the focus for the Sundays in December, during Advent I'll be focusing upon the lectionary readings from the Psalms.

December 4th, Advent 2 – Peace - Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13

December 11th, Advent 3 – Joy - Psalm 126

December 18th, Advent 4 – Love - Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26

December 24th, Christmas Eve – God's Love Come Down - John 1:1-14

December 25th, Christmas Day – Celebration of Jesus' Birth - Luke 2:(1-7), 8-20

Yes, we'll have worship on Christmas Day, regular time. It will be a service of Carols, God's Word given to us and Prayers.

Along with all our activities here at the church, there will be a Community Christmas Cantata at 1st Baptist Church on December 10th and 11th at 6 pm. It's good for the community to come together and celebrate Jesus' birth. We'll have some of our members in the community choir.

Following all our activities for Advent and Christmas Day, the first Sunday of the New Year falls on Sunday. It will be nice to begin our New Year by worshipping God and giving thanks for the year past and the new year which is just beginning.

An idea I've come up with is a free daily devotional exchange. I have several yearly – daily devotional books that I've used over the years. I'll be putting them in the hospitality room. You are welcome to bring in ones you've used in the past and exchange it for one that is there. If you don't have one but want to pick one up, feel free to do so. I'm sure there will be more than enough for all who want one.

Let me take this opportunity to wish all of us a Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year.

God's blessings upon us all,
Dennis

Please see page 2 for important information about the printing and mailing of the newsletters starting January 2012.



Session Digest, Stated Session Meeting
November 17th, 2011

*"Come share God's inspiring love,
Through the nurturing of this caring community,
As we enrich living traditions with the good news of Christ."*

The meeting was opened with scripture readings and prayers related to giving thanks and then the elders shared what each was thankful for; family, our church, each of the members and friends of the church, the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), health and our pastor.

The pastor reported that communion had been served to Eleanor Wright, Joan Pierce, Lenice Matthiesen, Joe and Shirley Carmack, and Truman Persinger, assisted by Vera Hardin. The pastor also noted that he had baptized Amber Dawn Ball, a resident of the nursing home.

The current financial reports were reviewed. It was noted that a CD will be cashed in to cover the expenses for upkeep of the church facilities and provide adequate cash flow in our general fund account. See the financial reports on page 3 in this newsletter.

The elders then heard a report on the 2011 Consecration Stewardship program. It is estimated that at this time we should have \$109,000 in pledged income for 2012. It was also noted that it was again a great success to share the celebration dinner with Ozark Presbyterian Church and they come serve us our celebration dinner.

The elders approved a member of the church to be a "purchasing agent" for the church. Responsibilities will be helping with purchasing regular kitchen supplies, janitorial supplies and other general supplies for the church.

Under committee reports it was noted that the Care of Members Committee continues to send out cards to members and friends of the church, send cards to service men and women serving overseas, make visits and phone calls. Parish Activities reported on the plans for the Community Thanksgiving and Christmas Candle Light dinners. The Worship committee reported that communion will be served, Sunday, December 4th and at the Christmas Eve service. The Budget and Finance committee along with any interested elders will be meeting before the next session meeting to work up a proposed budget for 2012. Building and Grounds committee reported on plans for the removal of the Oak tree and progress on the replacement and repairs to windows around the church.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm. Next regular meeting will be at 6:30 pm on December 15th.

Newsletters

As you are likely aware, the Postal Service has been going through many changes recently and one of those changes has affected the printing and mailing of the newsletters each month.

With our bulk mail permit, we have always had to pay for a minimum of 200 copies. The actual number of copies we print and mail however, fluctuates from time to time as people are removed from the list and new people added. In the past, we have been able to mail only the number of copies, up to 200, that were on the list. Recently that has changed. We are now required to print and mail 200 copies, even if we have to send those extra copies back to our office, wasting time, paper, ink, trees, etc!

Starting in January 2012, we will be emailing newsletters to anyone who has the ability to receive email. The newsletter is sent as a PDF file, which can then be read (and printed if you so choose) via a free program available at <http://www.adobe.com/products/reader.html>. In addition, the newsletter is posted on the website monthly so it can also be read there. If you are not able to read online or receive email and you want to continue receiving the newsletter, we will still be mailing those copies.

Please make sure the office has your current email address if you would like to receive your newsletter, and other emailed announcements, prayer requests etc. We don't send many emails, but it is a quick, cost-effective way to reach as many people as possible. If you have any questions, please let us know.

Community Presbyterian Church
Income and Expense Statement (UNAUDITED)
 Consolidated - January 2011 - November 2011

	Current Period	Current Budget
INCOME		
BUDGETED	\$108,697.21	\$114,125.00
NON-BUDGETED		
DONOR RESTRICTED	295.00	0.00
Subtotal Non-budgeted	6,519.04	0.00
<i>Budgeted</i>	0.00	0.00
<i>Non-Budgeted</i>	6,519.04	
TOTAL INCOME	115,216.25	114,125.00
<i>Budgeted</i>	108,672.69	114,125.00
<i>Non-Budgeted</i>	6,543.56	
EXPENSES		
PASTOR	\$63,706.76	\$63,428.75
STAFF SERVICES	20,190.75	20,762.50
CARE OF PROPERTY	13,893.52	17,233.37
MISSIONS	11,130.63	10,640.52
OTHER	5,019.28	6,141.74
NON-BUDGETED	21,141.58	1,833.37
TOTAL EXPENSES	135,082.52	120,040.25
<i>Budgeted</i>	112,656.25	120,040.25
<i>Non-Budgeted</i>	22,426.27	

Benevolence Fund Report:

During November we helped 10 families: 5 with transportation needs, 3 with utilities, 1 with a place to stay and 1 with a prescription medicine. We also received a Slusher Foundation Grant and are so very thankful to be able to help more people through this grant.

If you would like to make a donation to the Benevolent Fund, please do so by marking your check "special gift - benevolent fund". Those who receive our assistance greatly appreciate your gifts!

The return of the Son

Had Jesus never been born, the most we could hope for would be a mid-winter holiday celebrating the gradual "return" of the sun. Instead, we celebrate the coming of the Son of God into the world and our redemption from sin. And we look forward to the time Jesus will return, not just to warm us up a little, but to give us the kingdom of Heaven for all time...

The hope of the Advent season is found in the knowledge that God loves the world. Not simply a message of comfort, the gospel prods us to do likewise: to love and to care for the world.

-Mitch Finley



Community Christmas Cantata
December 10th & 11th, 6:00 p.m.
First Baptist Church
Forsyth, Missouri

Several members of our choir are participating in this cooperative community event.

The following recipe is taken from the Branson Echo newspaper, dated 12-20-1907 (with a few additions for clarity)

Christmas Cake

The following receipt (recipe) is one of the best and most appetising cakes that can be made, try it.

- 4½ cups of First Kings 4-22
- 1½ cups of Judges 5-25
- 2 cups of Jeremiah 6-20
- 2 cups of First Samuel 30-12
- 1 cup of Numbers 17-8
- 4 teaspoonfuls of First Samuel 14-25
- 2 cups of Nahum 3-12
- season to taste of Second Chronicles 9-9
- (6) of Jeremiah 17-11
- a pinch of Leviticus 2-13
- ½ cup of Judges 4-19
- 3 teaspoonfuls of Amos 4-5

Q.L. Nace

(The original recipe included no instructions for mixing and baking. An online search yielded various times and temperatures, as online searches typically do! The best information I could find can be seen at this site <http://historicalfoods.com/scripture-cake-recipe>, which indicates 320 degrees for 1½ hours, or until it tests done. The actual recipe on this page is slightly different.)

Diabetes Focus Group

The next meeting of the Forsyth Diabetic Focus Group will be on Monday, December 5th. The meeting time is 10:00 AM, at Community Presbyterian Church, 271 Main Street in Forsyth.

This month participants will be sharing information they have found to be helpful in the management of their diabetes, particularly at this time of year. All the great food during the holiday season makes for a difficult time for diabetics. Actually, I refer to the time from mid-November until the "Super Bowl" as the "eating season"! Therefore, we ask that you bring diabetic cookies or snacks to share during the meeting. If you can not bring anything, please don't let that keep you from coming as I'm sure there will be plenty to go around.

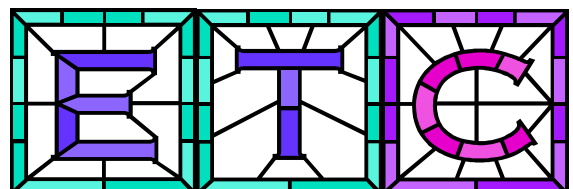
The public is invited.



Window Repair Donation

The E.T.C.* Fund has recently made a donation toward the stained glass window repairs in the sanctuary.

Thanks for your support



* Educating Talented Christians

Echos from the Choir Loft



On November 6, the choir participated in the Annual Presbyterian Choir Festival held at the Southminster Presbyterian Church in Springfield. We joined with 8 other choirs in a wonderful worship service which included 2 songs sung by all of the choirs and directed by Jason Huneycutt from Ozark High School. Each choir presented a song as well. We sang our old favorite, "New Born Again". We were blessed to have Robyn Hurst, daughter of Anna Koelling and a performer in Branson, take over the choir's duties for the anthem that morning, singing "The Real Me" so that we could "save our voices" for the afternoon.

The Choir is getting ready for the Advent season. So far we have "Emmanuel" and "Lo, How a Rose Is Blooming" and will be working up some other special music to prepare for the Christmas Season. We have a wonderful dulcimer artist, Paul Harvey, (yes, Paul Harvey!) who will play for us in December. Arliss is planning a Christmas party for December 23 which will be held at the Historical Society. We will watch a recording of our performance in the Nov. 6 Choir Festival.

Keep December 10 and 11 on your calendar. Arliss, Anna, Bonita and Dennis will be representing Community Presbyterian Church joining with members from other community churches in the Annual Community Christmas Cantata which will be hosted by Forsyth First Baptist Church. This will be an exciting and inspiring way to get into the true spirit of the season.

Notes/Reminders from the Office-Annual Reports

Just a quick reminder that the Annual Reports are fast approaching! If you are a committee head, now would be a great time to start thinking about your annual report. They will be due before you know it!



PRESBYTERIAN
WOMEN

A "Christmas cup of tea" was the theme for our November P.W. Meeting. We had a tea cup exchange, and enjoyed teas from other countries around the world, Africa, Japan, Ireland, England and others.

Vera Hardin read the story "A Christmas cup of tea" and also the tale of the "China Tea Cup", which we all enjoyed.

Our next meeting is the 18th of January, we have a guest speaker planned and more details will be in the January newsletter.

Please plan on joining us in January, remember the P.W. needs the support of all the women of the church, we cannot continue to function without your input and help.

May all of you have a glorious and wonderful Christmas with family and friends.

Merry Christmas from your
P.W. Officers.

News from John Calvin Presbytery

Dear Friends,

As your new Pastoral Presbyter, one of the tasks I have been asked to concentrate on is communication. As a result, it was suggested that I write a monthly column for the newsletters of the churches in John Calvin Presbytery. The content of the column would be the observations from our time together and an update as to what was happening in the future in our presbytery. So, here I go.

I love this time of the year. Crisp days, football and holidays seem to ignite something in my soul and I become energized and excited about all that is going on. That is also true when it comes to visiting with people around the presbytery. I am energized and excited about all that is going on and about the relationships that are being built among the churches.

This past month has been a busy month for many churches as they prepare for the Advent Season, which begins on November 27th, and get ready for Christmas programs and special services. In the midst of all this activity, I like to take time to sit back and take in all the joy of the season and let it soak into my soul. For me, there seems to be a certain electricity in the air which is defined by the anticipation of the celebration of Christ's birth. The fact that this celebration is preceded by Thanksgiving is no accident in my opinion. It is so appropriate, before we begin the season, to purposely set aside a day to be thankful for God's blessings. This gives us the proper mindset for the thankfulness we feel when we think about the greatest gift given to the human race, Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Praise be to God for this opportunity.

As for upcoming Presbytery events, the big one is the Presbytery meeting on December 3rd beginning at 9:30 a.m. in Mt. Vernon, MO. During worship, I will be installed as your Pastoral Presbyter, Linda Estrada will be Commissioned as the CRE (Commissioned Ruling Elder) of Galena, and we will acknowledge the retirement of Rev. Courtney Furman. The business of the meeting will include approving the budget for 2012. But most of all, this is a time when we gather as a Presbytery and make connections with one another as Presbyterians. Join us for a time of wonderful fellowship and relationship building as we gather in the name of our Lord.

Have a great Advent Season and remember the joy that comes from praising the Lord in all seasons of life.

Susan Rosenbaum, Pastoral Presbyter.

(Last month's news was received too late to get in the newsletter and if we don't have your email address, you did not receive it. Here is last month's article, just to bring you up to date.)

One of the first things I would like to highlight is the Hollister Presbyterian Church's celebration of 100 years of service. This was a joyful event for the church and the community. Melana Scuggs, our Stated Clerk was on hand for that celebration.

Another highlight of this past month was the Installation of Becky Schwandt as the Designated Pastor of Southminster Presbyterian Church in Springfield. The beginning of a new pastoral call is always an exciting time in the life of a church.

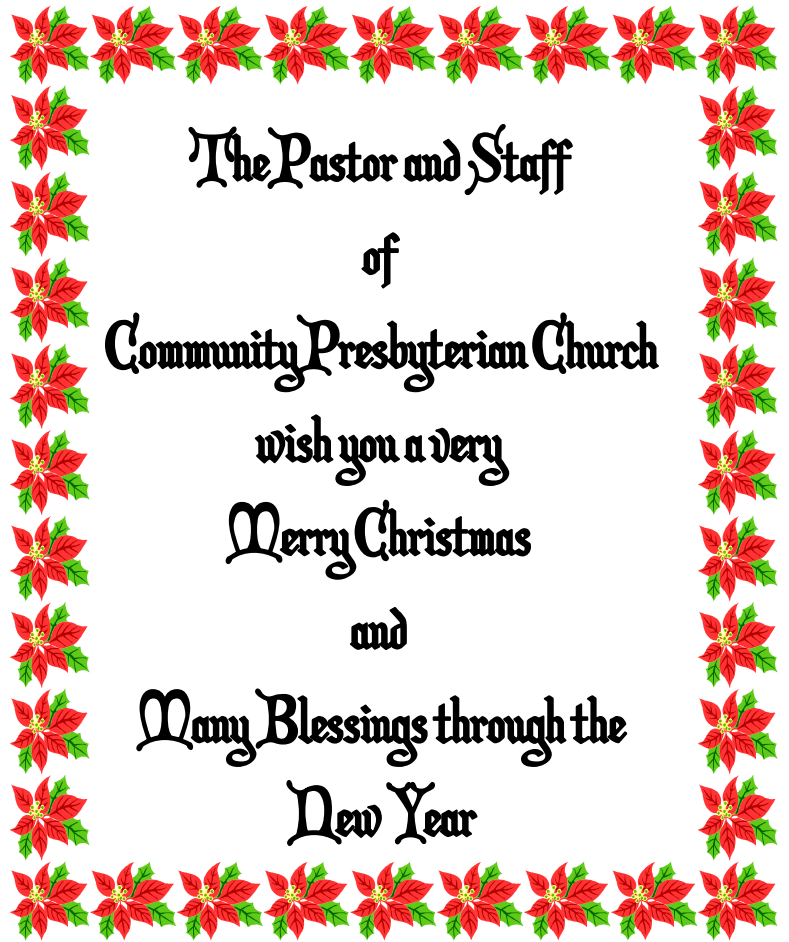
As for my observations, I am seeing a renewed excitement when it comes to being the presbytery and engaging in ministry together. If you have any ideas or events you would like to share, please contact me at pastoralpresbyter@gmail.com or at [620-674-1844](tel:620-674-1844).

May the grace and peace of Christ be with you all. Susan Rosenbaum



New Yoga series

The next series of Senior/Limited Mobility/Restorative Yoga classes will begin on Tuesday, December 6th at 9:00 a.m. The 8 week session costs \$50. Classes are held on Tuesdays in Fellowship Hall and barring any illness or bad weather, they will end on January 24th. Robin is running a **10% off special for NEW STUDENTS** during this session so if you've been curious about the class, now would be a great time to join. For more information, or to sign up, please call the instructor, Robyn Hurst, at 417-231-1826. Or if you prefer, you can email her at veselsofclayyoga@yahoo.com.



The Pastor and Staff
of
Community Presbyterian Church
wish you a very
Merry Christmas
and
Many Blessings through the
New Year



ETC invites you to dine with us on Saturday, March 17, 2012

Please mark your calendar and wear your green as we celebrate St. Patrick's Day 2012.

ETC is accepting donations for a "live" auction to take place that evening. New or newly new items will be accepted. Gift Certificates, show passes, etc. (no pun intended) will make great auction items. Donations will be accepted anytime at the church office.


ETC raises money for our Presbyterian children, for camp, scholarships, etc.

If you would like to be involved in this once a year activity, please contact Arliss and Linda Stillings at 546-4845.



We need you!





*Christmas Candlelight Dinner
Tuesday, December 13, 2011
6:30 p.m., Fellowship Hall*

Catered by Forsyth Flower Cottage and Tea Room

*Pecan Crusted Chicken Breast
or
Baked Pork Roast*

Cream Sauce or Black Raspberry Sauce

*Mashed Potatoes
Almandine Green Beans
Hot Rolls and Butter*

*German Chocolate Cake
Holiday Pie*

Chocolate Mousse (Sugar Free)

Non Alcoholic Wine, Water, Coffee

Cost \$15 Per Person

RSVP by Friday, December 9, 2011

Denise, 417-546-2584 or compresby@centurytel.net

Must specify chicken or pork and which sauce



December 2011 Daily Lectionary

Thursday December 1
Ps. 18:1–20
Amos 4:6–13
2 Peter 3:11–18
Matt. 21:33–46

Friday December 2
Ps. 102
Amos 5:1–17
Jude 1–16
Matt. 22:1–14

Saturday December 3
Ps. 90
Amos 5:18–27
Jude 17–25
Matt. 22:15–22

Sunday December 4 —
2nd Sunday of Advent
Ps. 24
Amos 6:1–14
2 Thess. 1:5–12
Luke 1:57–68

Monday December 5
Ps. 122
Amos 7:1–9
Rev. 1:1–8
Matt. 22:23–33

Tuesday December 6
Ps. 33
Amos 7:10–17
Rev. 1:9–16
Matt. 22:34–46

Wednesday December 7
Ps. 50
Amos 8:1–14
Rev. 1:17–2:7
Matt. 23:1–12

Thursday December 8
Ps. 18:1–20
Amos 9:1–10
Rev. 2:8–17
Matt. 23:13–26

Friday December 9
Ps. 102
Hag. 1:1–15
Rev. 2:18–29
Matt. 23:27–39

Saturday December 10
Ps. 90
Hag. 2:1–9
Rev. 3:1–6
Matt. 24:1–14

Sunday December 11 —
3rd Sunday of Advent
Ps. 24
Amos 9:11–15
2 Thess. 2:1–3, 13–17
John 5:30–47

Monday December 12
Ps. 122
Zech. 1:7–17
Rev. 3:7–13
Matt. 24:15–31

Tuesday December 13
Ps. 33
Zech. 2:1–13
Rev. 3:14–22
Matt. 24:32–44

Wednesday December 14
Ps. 50
Zech. 3:1–10
Rev. 4:1–8
Matt. 24:45–51

Thursday December 15
Ps. 18:1–20
Zech. 4:1–14
Rev. 4:9–5:5
Matt. 25:1–13

Friday December 16
Ps. 102
Zech. 7:8–8:8
Rev. 5:6–14
Matt. 25:14–30

Saturday December 17
Ps. 90
Zech. 8:9–17
Rev. 6:1–17
Matt. 25:31–46

Sunday December 18 —
4th Sunday of Advent
Ps. 24
Gen. 3:8–15
Rev. 12:1–10
John 3:16–21

Monday December 19
Ps. 122
Zeph. 3:14–20
Titus 1:1–16
Luke 1:1–25

Tuesday December 20
Ps. 33
1 Sam. 2:1b–10
Titus 2:1–10
Luke 1:26–38

Wednesday December 21
Ps. 50
2 Sam. 7:1–17
Titus 2:11–3:8a
Luke 1:39–48a (48b–56)

Thursday December 22
Ps. 18:1–20
2 Sam. 7:18–29
Gal. 3:1–14
Luke 1:57–66

Friday December 23
Ps. 102
Jer. 31:10–14
Gal. 3:15–22
Luke 1:67–80 or Matt.
1:1–17

Saturday December 24 —
Christmas Eve
Ps. 90
Isa. 60:1–6
Gal. 3:23–4:7
Matt. 1:18–25

Sunday December 25 —
Christmas Day
Ps. 2
Micah 4:1–5, 5:2–4
1 John 4:7–16
John 3:31–36

Monday December 26
Ps. 116
2 Chron. 24:17–22
Acts 6:1–7
Acts 7:59–8:8

Tuesday December 27
Ps. 34
Prov. 8:22–30
1 John 5:1–12
John 13:20–35

Wednesday December 28
Ps. 2
Isa. 49:13–23
Isa. 54:1–13
Matt. 18:1–14

Thursday December 29
Ps. 96
2 Sam. 23:13–17b
2 John 1–13
John 2:1–11

Friday December 30
Ps. 93, 148
1 Kings 17:17–24
3 John 1–15
John 4:46–54

Saturday December 31
Ps. 98
1 Kings 3:5–14
James 4:13–17, 5:7–11
John 5:1–15

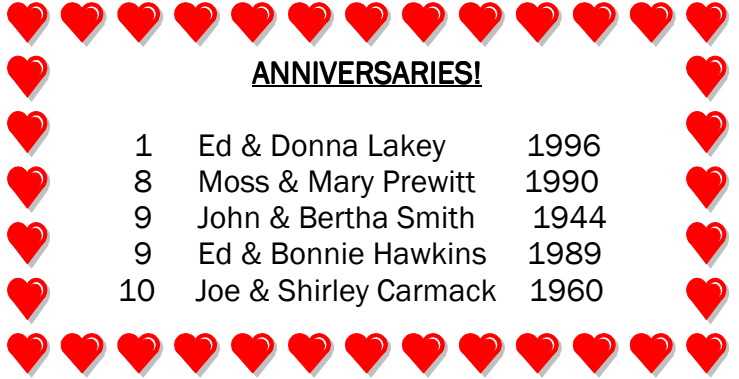


BIRTHDAYS!

- 3 Frank Espinosa, Bea Githens
- 5 Jeff Merrell
- 11 Anna Koelling, Laura Ceveringa
- 12 Scott Winzenried
- 16 Irma Groenenboom
- 17 Clayton Cooper
- 18 Gretchen Keith
- 25 Nell Morton
- 26 Jim Lakey
- 29 Liz Womack
- 31 Shirley Carmack, Dale Utesch



**DECEMBER
CELEBRATIONS!**



ANNIVERSARIES!

- 1 Ed & Donna Lakey 1996
- 8 Moss & Mary Prewitt 1990
- 9 John & Bertha Smith 1944
- 9 Ed & Bonnie Hawkins 1989
- 10 Joe & Shirley Carmack 1960



***Christmas Eve Candlelight
service***

***Saturday, December 24th
5:00 P.M.***

Note of thanks from John & Gretchen Keith's son, serving overseas:

"Dear Pastor Dennis & Forsyth Presbyterian Church,

Thank you very much for your kind letters and thoughts. Thank you also for all your prayers for all our Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen , Marines, DOD Civilians and our Coalition Partners-49 nations in all here in Afghanistan. I personally am tucked away safe and sound in Kabul serving as the combined Joint Operations Center Director - not nearly as dangerous or as challenging as what so many of our own young men and women endure.

Thank you again for your kind thoughts and prayers."

John David (JD) Keith
Colonel, U.S. Army

October 31, 2011

Pastor Dennis,

AGAIN thank you for permitting us to use your church's parking lot as the gathering place for our Halloween parade. Another HUGE thank you for setting up the sound system and I know Dan thanks you, too!!

We have been doing the parade since 1981 and have used different sites but yours is the best! I've been involved for 17 of those 30 years!

Our entrant numbers were down a bit--about 60--but that's okay! It's still a bit of "Americana" in our small town and I like that!!

Thanks again for all your help--you are greatly appreciated!!

Sincerely,
Lyla

Ushers/Greetings




Billie Utesch
Madelon Kinkade
Jim & Debra Robbers

Liturgist

Len Clifford



DECEMBER 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Every Sunday Sunday School 9:00 am Worship 10:30 am				1 Bar Assoc 11:30 am	2	3 AA 7:00 pm
4 2 nd Sunday of Advent	5 Diabetic Group 10:00 am	6 Vessels of Clay Yoga 9:00 am AA 7:00 pm	7 Wmn's Breakfast 8:15 am Men's Breakfast 8:30am Small Group 10:00 am Hannah Circle 1:30 pm Choir 7:00 pm	8	9	10 Community Cantata 6:00 pm AA 7:00 pm
11 3 rd Sunday of Advent Community Cantata 6:00 pm	12 Esther Circle Noon	13 Vessels of Clay Yoga 9:00 am  Candlelight Dinner 6:30 pm AA 7:00 pm	14 Wmn's Breakfast 8:15 am Men's Breakfast 8:30am Calico Cutups 10:00 am Chamber Lunch 11:30 am Choir 7:00 pm	15 Session Meeting 6:30 pm	16	17 AA 7:00 pm
18 4 th Sunday of Advent	19	20 CHIMES Deadline Vessels of Clay Yoga 9:00 am Prayer Group 10:00 am AA 7:00 pm	21 Wmn's Breakfast 8:15 am Men's Breakfast 8:30am Choir 7:00 pm	22	23	24 Christmas Eve 5:00 pm AA 7:00 pm
25 Christmas 	26	27 Vessels of Clay Yoga 9:00 am Prayer Group 10:00 am AA 7:00 pm	28 Wmn's Breakfast 8:15 am Men's Breakfast 8:30am PW Sewing 9:30 am Choir 7:00 pm	29	30	31 New Year's Eve  AA 7:00 pm

merry Christmas!

COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
P.O. Box 486
Forsyth, MO 65653-0486

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Forsyth, Missouri 65653
(417) 546-2584

Dennis Winzenried, Pastor
Website: www.compresby.org
Email: compresby@centurytel.net



Community Presbyterian Church



Staff Members

Pastor.....Dennis D. Winzenried
Secretary.....Denise Carr
Choir Director.....Arliss Stillings
Organist.....Linda Stillings
Custodian.....Paul Weeks

Sunday School 9:00 am
Sunday Worship Service 10:30 am