

The Chimes

January 2012



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

Happy and more importantly blessed New Year to one and all.

Last year I ended my Jan. 2011 pastoral corner with this paragraph; "Well the list could go on forever as I look back over 2010, I can think of many of you who have helped make this past year a real success. And because of God's continued faithfulness, and the faithfulness of all the members and friends of the church, I'm sure that 2011 will be a wonderful year as well." Little did I know how wonderful the year would be for the church and church family.

Here are some of the highlights from the year; (a more detailed account will be in the 2011 annual report.)

Deciding not to hold a session meeting in July but then having five called session meetings to receive new members. The baptisms of this year, most of them taking place at Forsyth Nursing and Rehab Center. Truman Persinger's, at the young age of 97, his granddaughter, Allison, and Jeff and Allison's two boys - Alex and Max. Then also later on, Joe Carmack, because Shirley is a resident at the nursing home. Along with this highlight I know of two first communions I was a part of this year. Mission trip to Nashville. Small group studies through the year. Needed repairs to all the stained glass windows, and repairs to other windows as well. 2011 was a banner year for me as a pastor and I believe for our church and church family.

As we look toward 2012, what we can be assured of is that we'll be in for some more surprises. We worship the God of new life, the God who already knows what will be and will guide our steps as we journey with God into this new year that God did not promise us, but it seems will be given unto us.

As we prepare ourselves for this New Year, here is a thought I want to leave with us all.

"God would like for people to go step-by-step, led not by their own ideas about life but by God's word, which comes to them at each step, whenever they ask. ... God's word is new and open today and tomorrow, and it can only be related to the moment in which we hear it." (Dietrich Bonhoeffer, I Want to Live These Days with You a year of daily devotions - Daily devotion December 27th)

What I gather from these words from Bonhoeffer is, as God's people we need to study his word regularly, pray often and always be open to God's Spirit guiding our steps and being the wind beneath our wings.

Last year was full of many great moments with God and I know 2012 will be as well. May each of us be willing to take steps on our individual journey of faith, as we the people of Community Presbyterian Church as a whole seek to journey with God into this New Year that is coming and coming very quickly. In this newsletter is a prayer for this New Year. Read it and pray it with me as this New Year comes upon us.

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Ghost,
be with us all. Amen.

Dennis

**Session Digest
December 15th, 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."***

Meeting opened with a devotional and prayer lead by Pastor Dennis. The devotion was "Not Everything is Probable With God" and was based on Luke 1:26-38. It was a devotion from "I Want To Live This Life with You" by Dietrich Bonhoeffer.

The first item of business was the examination of elders elect Ed Hawkins and Liz Rogers. They both shared their journey of faith with the session, stated they could answer all the ordination/installation questions in the affirmative and shared what they were looking forward to during their time on the session. The elders approved Liz Rogers being ordained and installed and Ed Hawkins being installed as active elders on January 1st, 2012.

The minutes of past session meetings and the November 20th, 2011 congregational meeting were approved as read.

During the pastor/moderator's report the session set the January meeting dates for Friday, January 13th from 6:30 pm to 9 pm and Saturday morning January 14th 9 am till noon for the purpose of planning out the year and beginning some long range planning for the church.

Under the clerk's report the rolls of the church were reviewed and Steve Wood was moved from the inactive roll of the church, to the active roll per his request. Two members who have moved away were placed on the inactive roll.

The elders then reviewed the most recent financial reports of the church and took action on approving the 2012 budget. Most line items remained the same. Raises were granted to Denise Carr, Church/Financial Secretary and to Arliss and Linda Stillings. The elders project the income for 2012 to be \$123,000 and projected expenses to total \$130,770, thus showing that we'll still be drawing some of our reserve funds to fund the paying of all expenses in 2012. Any extra gifts from members and friends to make up this deficit are always appreciated.

Building and Grounds committee reported on the removal of the tree in front of the church. The elders thank Ricky Wyman and all who helped with the clean-up around the tree. They also reported on the progress on replacing of windows behind the sanctuary and rooms off the sanctuary.

The meeting was adjourned with prayer at 8:15 lead by Pastor Dennis.

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. Please have them to the office by Wednesday, January 11th.

Also, if you have pictures of events through the year that you haven't previously sent to us, we'd love to include some of them in the reports or the annual congregational meeting, if possible.

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

	Current Period	Current Budget
<hr/>		
INCOME		
BUDGETED	\$117,821.12	\$124,500.00
NON-BUDGETED		
DONOR RESTRICTED	295.00	0.00
Subtotal Non-budgeted	30,679.33	0.00
<i>Budgeted</i>	0.00	0.00
<i>Non-Budgeted</i>	30,679.33	
	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL INCOME	148,500.45	124,500.00
<i>Budgeted</i>	117,796.60	124,500.00
<i>Non-Budgeted</i>	30,703.85	
 EXPENSES		
PASTOR	\$69,151.89	\$69,195.00
STAFF SERVICES	22,074.69	22,650.00
CARE OF PROPERTY	16,883.06	18,800.00
MISSIONS	12,023.96	11,607.96
OTHER	6,263.15	6,700.00
NON-BUDGETED	22,418.60	2,000.00
	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL EXPENSES	148,815.35	130,952.96
<i>Budgeted</i>	124,068.64	130,952.96
<i>Non-Budgeted</i>	24,746.71	

Although our congregation pledges were under our budgeted amounts during 2011, we kept our head above water. We give thanks for the extra donations for our building and memorial funds. We did cash in a couple of CD's to end up the year and put our church on good financial standing for the new year. It is anticipated that a good portion of the CD's will be replenished in the near future.

It should be noted that the church received a bequest in December, from Marge Simpson, in the amount of \$20,000.00.

I wish to thank all for their cooperation and patience with the statements of giving. The statements are what is used to established budget figures for the ensuing year.

We do have some shortfall in the budget for 2012 and unable to have a balanced budget but with congregational cooperation and our exceptional spirit of giving we will survive.

It has been a pleasure to work with the members of the Budget Committee and especially our Financial Secretary during the year.

Treasurer,
 Clayton C. Cooper



The Presbyterian Woman made up 44 gift bags for the men and women on Meals on Wheels. Nancy Czerniak chaired this endeavor and went above and beyond to have great things in their bags. Of course a big thank you to Elaine Beals for all the beautiful hats. Also the donation of money was appreciated. We have a lot of people to thank for making this a successful mission.

Pat Seals

PW Gift Bags Thanks

I would like to thank everyone at Community Presbyterian Church for their donations towards putting our Christmas Bags together. Every donation was greatly appreciated. I would also like to thank the following for their donations:

**Pyramid Foods, Country Mart
Save a Lot Foods, Forsyth, Mo.
Expressway Lodge, Branson, Mo.
Scenic Hills Inn, Branson, Mo.
Branson Towers Hotel, Branson, Mo.
Chase Suite Hotel, Kansas City, Mo.**

Thank you to Pat Seals, Ginger Clifford, Gerri DeBres, Jeanne Legge, C.J. Gailey, Vera Hardin, Evelyn & Cheryl Cleveringa and Wanda Brown for helping to put the Christmas Bags together and deliver them to the Senior Center.

Nancy Czerniak



Diabetes Focus Group

The Forsyth Diabetes Focus Group will be meeting on Monday, January 9th, at 10:00 a.m.

This month's speaker will be Joe Gallagher, NP, of Skaggs Diabetes & Endocrinology Care.

The public is invited so bring a friend!

A Prayer for the New Year

Come, Holy Spirit,

Spirit of the Risen Christ, be with us today and always.

Be our Light, our Guide, and our Comforter.
Be our Strength, our Courage, and our Sanctifier.

May this new year be a time of deep spiritual growth for us,

A time of welcoming your graces and gifts,
A time for forgiving freely and unconditionally,
A time for growing in virtue and goodness.

Come, Holy Spirit,

Be with us today and always. Amen.



Country Mart Community Cash

If you have any Community Cash slips that you plan to donate, please get them in to the office by Sunday, January 8th.

They have to be mailed to Springfield instead of dropping them off at the store so we need time to get them there by their expiration date.

Thanks!

Small Group Gatherings:

Beginning this month (please note on the Ritual of Friendship sheet, or by contacting the church office, your interest in being a part of one of these small groups.)

January 8th at 4 pm, and for the next four weeks, small group studying Ken Bauso's book "A Traveler's Guide to Understanding". From Ken: "After some discussion with Dennis, it sounds like a good approach to my project would be to divide it into a Sunday morning bible study then a book review Sunday afternoon. This is so those who are interested in going to Sunday school to study scripture may do so, and those interested in the book may come at 4:00 pm. We will study scripture that parallels issues in the book, so the discussion will be relevant in both cases. I will lead both. The book discusses issues such as our life's purpose (God's intention), original sin, why evil people exist, American values, why bad things happen to good people and more. My hope is the book will provide a forum that stimulates discussion and the sharing of life's experiences. Our plan is to start Jan. 8th and continue for 4 weeks (may go longer if the group wishes). Remember, Sunday school at the normal time and book study at 4:00 pm at the church. Thank you and God bless."

Small Group study of "Unbinding the Gospel" by Martha Grace Reece. This is a study many in the church have done and may want to do again. It's also a great study for newer members of the church. This study has to do with personal spiritual growth, prayer and the sharing of our faith experiences. Those who have participated in the past have found it very helpful. The first meeting of this small group will be on Sunday January 15th at 5:00 pm, at the home of Bill and Nancy Brush. Books will be available in the church office prior to the first meeting.



Thanks to Anna Koelling, Nancy Brush, Pat Seals, Ginger Clifford, Bill Brush for helping with the Love INC annual Christmas toy distribution!

WELCOME

**TO OUR NEWEST
MEMBERS**

**JUSTIN & STACI
WEHLING!**

News from John Calvin Presbytery

Dear Friends,

The December 3, 2011 meeting of John Calvin Presbytery was an awesome event and I praise God for the Spirit filled worship and time of meeting together and building relationships. I want to thank everyone who participated in any way to help make this meeting such a success. As promised, I compiled the answers to the conversation questions and here are the results. The following ideas were common threads in the small groups.

Question 1, "How does being connectional help you be the person and church you are called by God to be?" Many people responded that it meant we were stronger together (like all those churches who helped out with Joplin tornado relief), we can do more if we join together than we can if we seek to do everything on our own, we can do things better with more people, and enthusiasm is generated and passed along to others when we work together as a presbytery. Also, being connectional meant Presbytery was willing to stand with congregations when they were going through difficult times even when the whole congregation was not aware of their presence.

Question 2, "What in the narrative budget excites you?" Does this make you think of anything you might be doing in your own church?" was answered in a variety of ways. One good thing was that a balanced budget excited people and that they could use this as a good example for their own church. Another response was that the narrative budget was very informative and helped people better understand the budget of the Presbytery. There was also excitement generated about the use of technology, possible campus ministries, youth ministries and working together as churches so we could have more resources at our disposal.

Question 3, "What new ideas or dreams for creative ministry do you have for your church that might be fulfilled with a Creative Ministry Grant?" This question provided some good input on how much people are still trying to understand just what this is and how it will be used. This gives me the opportunity to tell you that we are in the process of gathering a group of people who will define the parameters of the grant – what it can be used for, the amounts of the grants and how to do things like follow up and support. Those should be in place hopefully sometime early in 2012. We are hoping that this grant program will help churches think outside the box and try things that they have never done in the past, things that excite them and perhaps even help them be connected with other churches in order to make their dreams become a reality. Some ideas generated were hot meals for local police officers and firefighters, a once a week hot meal for the homeless, and new and different fund raisers.

I do believe these questions generated some good ideas and helped us all better understand where we are going as a presbytery. As we begin a new year together, I pray that each and every one of us will be involved in some way in the ministry and mission of John Calvin Presbytery and we may all work together for the glory of our God.

Susan Rosenbaum

Benevolence Fund Report:

During November we helped 7 families: 2 with utilities, 2 with rent, 2 with transportation issues and 1 with a prescription. We also received a donation from a local business.

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!

REMINDER-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. **(Also, please add compresby@centurytel.net to your emails "safe senders" list- I've had some trouble with AOL email addresses recently!)**

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.



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.



The meal for the evening will be Corned Beef & Cabbage or Meatloaf or 1/2 Corned Beef & Cabbage and 1/2 Meatloaf



Cost: \$10 per person or \$20 per couple



(Reservations will be accepted at the church office.)



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!





Filling the boxes.

Operation Christmas Boxes!

Thank you so much for the monetary donations and items that you gave for "Operation Christmas Boxes". 16 boxes were sent and they were received on Tuesday, the 20th. I know that they appreciate being thought of during the holidays which is a tough time to be away from home.

Merry Christmas and Thank You!

**Tammy Hagler and Madeline Lumpkin
(Nic's Mom & Great Grandmother)**



Madeline Lumpkin helps pack cookies.



Kenny Thurman of the Forsyth Post Office ready to mail the boxes.

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your recent generous gift for Shared Mission Support. Your gift is important to us as it provides people and resources to do God's work and to offer the world a visible witness of Jesus Christ.

Shared Mission Support remains at the core of how we bring together the resources God has provided to answer the call God has given us. It provides the basic financial support that makes our entire mission together possible and undergirds efforts to Grow Christ's Church Deep and Wide.

Because God loves the world and Christ gave his life for it, God's Spirit calls us as individuals and as the church to respond with our lives and resources. I am grateful for your positive response to this call and your willingness to join with others in our church to share the love of Christ in this country and around the world.

Faithfully yours,
Linda B. Valentine
Executive Director, General Assembly Mission Council

January 2012 Daily Lectionary

Sunday January 1 First Sunday After Christmas Ps. 98 1 Sam. 1:1–2, 7b–28 Col. 1:9–20 Luke 2:22–40	Monday January 9 Ps. 5 Gen. 2:4–9 (10–15) 16–25 Heb. 1:1–14 John 1:1–18	Tuesday January 17 Ps. 123 Gen. 9:1–17 Heb. 5:7–14 John 3:16–21	Wednesday January 25 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Ends Ps. 65 Gen. 16:1–14 Heb. 9:15–28 John 5:19–29
Monday January 2 Ps. 48 1 Kings 19:1–8 Eph. 4:1–16 John 6:1–14	Tuesday January 10 Ps. 42 Gen. 3:1–24 Heb. 2:1–10 John 1:19–28	Wednesday January 18 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity begins Ps. 15 Gen. 9:18–29 Heb. 6:1–12 John 3:22–36	Thursday January 26 Ps. 143 Gen. 16:15–17:14 Heb. 10:1–10 John 5:30–47
Tuesday January 3 Ps. 111 1 Kings 19:9–18 Eph. 4:17–32 John 6:15–27	Wednesday January 11 Ps. 89:1–18 Gen. 4:1–16 Heb. 2:11–18 John 1:(29–34) 35–42	Thursday January 19 Ps. 36 Gen. 11:1–9 Heb. 6:13–20 John 4:1–15	Friday January 27 Ps. 88 Gen. 17:15–27 Heb. 10:11–25 John 6:1–15
Wednesday January 4 Ps. 20 Josh. 3:14–4:7 Eph. 5:1–20 John 9:1–12, 35–38	Thursday January 12 Ps. 97 Gen. 4:17–26 Heb. 3:1–11 John 1:43–51	Friday January 20 Ps. 130 Gen. 11:27–12:8 Heb. 7:1–17 John 4:16–26	Saturday January 28 Ps. 122 Gen. 18:1–16 Heb. 10:26–39 John 6:16–27
Thursday January 5 Ps. 99 Jonah 2:2–9 Eph. 6:10–20 John 11:17–27, 38–44	Friday January 13 Ps. 51 Gen. 6:1–8 Heb. 3:12–19 John 2:1–12	Saturday January 21 Ps. 56 Gen. 12:9–13:1 Heb. 7:18–28 John 4:27–42	Sunday January 29 4th Sunday after Epiphany Ps. 108 Gen. 18:16–33 Gal. 5:13–25 Mark 8:22–30
Friday January 6 Epiphany of the Lord Ps. 72 Isa. 49:1–7 Rev. 21:22–27 Matt. 12:14–21	Saturday January 14 Ps. 104 Gen. 6:9–22 Heb. 4:1–13 John 2:13–22	Sunday January 22 3rd Sunday after Epiphany Ps. 67 Gen. 13:2–18 Gal. 2:1–10 Mark 7:31–37	Monday January 30 Ps. 62 Gen. 19:1–17 (18–23) 24–29 Heb. 11:1–12 John 6:27–40
Saturday January 7 Ps. 46 <i>or</i> 97 Deut. 8:1–3 Col. 1:1–14 John 6:30–33, 48–51	Sunday January 15 2nd Sunday after Epiphany Ps. 19 Gen. 7:1–10, 17–23 Eph. 4:1–16 Mark 3:7–19	Monday January 23 Ps. 57 Gen. 14:(1–7) 8–24 Heb. 8:1–13 John 4:43–54	Tuesday January 31 Ps. 12 Gen. 21:1–21 Heb. 11:13–22 John 6:41–51
Sunday January 8 Baptism of the Lord Ps. 104 Gen. 1:1–2:3 Eph. 1:3–14 John 1:29–34	Monday January 16 Ps. 135 Gen. 8:6–22 Heb. 4:14–5:6 John 2:23–3:15	Tuesday January 24 Ps. 54 Gen. 15:1–11, 17–21 Heb. 9:1–14 John 5:1–18	



BIRTHDAYS!

- 2 Linda Worster
- 4 Asa King
- 7 Samantha Doolin
- 15 Linda Stillings, Thelma Mills
- 20 Billie Utesch
- 25 Allen Cleveringa
- 26 Gladys Haltom
- 28 Len Clifford
- 29 Wayne Graham



**JANUARY
CELEBRATIONS!**



ANNIVERSARIES!

5 Roy & Dixie Green 1955

Notes of Thanks!

Thank you so much. I loved it & you all. I'll sure wear my pretty cap & socks were pretty. Thanks for my food. I sure needed, all so good. Thank you & love.

Midge May

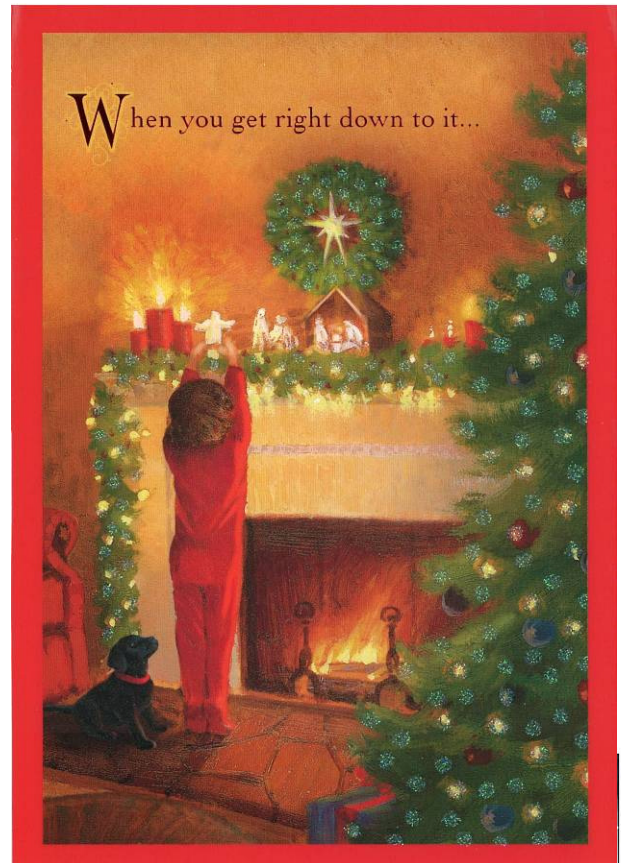
(She received a PW Gift Bag)

Scott Novack would like to say thanks for the prayers and keeping him on the prayer list. He's certain the prayers are what helped save his eye.

Dear Dennis & Community Presbyterian Church

Thank you for the free use of your basement (for the December meeting). We appreciate you very much!
Merry Christmas!

From Forsyth Chamber Board



...the only thing
that really matters
is Jesus.

CHRISTMAS BLESSINGS

*From Love Inc Board
of Directors, Staff and
Volunteers*

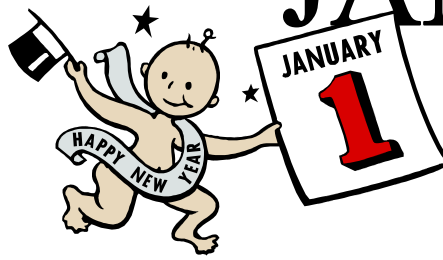
Ushers/Greetings

Ed & Bonnie Schanda
Barbara Graham
Marilyn Parsons



Liturgist

Gerri DeBres

JANUARY 2012



Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

1 Every Sunday Sunday School 9:00 am Worship 10:30 am Ordination/ Installation Elders	2	3 Vessels of Clay Yoga 9:00 am Prayer Group 10:00 am AA 7:00 pm	4 Wmn's Breakfast 8:15 am Men's Breakfast 8:30am Hannah Circle 1:30 pm Choir 7:00 pm	5 Bar Assoc 11:30 am	6 Epiphany 	7 AA 7:00 pm
8 Bavuso Small Group 4:00 pm (see pg 5 for info)	9 Diabetic Group 10:00 am Esther Circle Noon	10 Vessels of Clay Yoga 9:00 am Prayer Group 10:00 am AA 7:00 pm	11 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	12	13	14 AA 7:00 pm
15 Bavuso Small Group 4:00 pm Gospel Small Group 5:00 pm	16 <i>Martin Luther King Jr. Day</i>	17 Vessels of Clay Yoga 9:00 am Prayer Group 10:00 am AA 7:00 pm	18 Wmn's Breakfast 8:15 am Men's Breakfast 8:30am PW 1:30 pm Choir 7:00 pm	19	20 <i>CHIMES Deadline</i>	21 AA 7:00 pm
22 Bavuso Small Group 4:00 pm Gospel Small Group 5:00 pm	23	24 Vessels of Clay Yoga 9:00 am Prayer Group 10:00 am AA 7:00 pm	25 Wmn's Breakfast 8:15 am Men's Breakfast 8:30am PW Sewing 9:30 am Choir 7:00 pm	26	27	28 AA 7:00 pm
29 Bavuso Small Group 4:00 pm Gospel Small Group 5:00 pm	30	31 Prayer Group 10:00 am AA 7:00 pm				

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271 Main Street
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