

The Presby Post



A PUBLICATION OF THE STATE COLLEGE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
PENNSYLVANIA



DECEMBER 2011

Inside This Issue

Presbyterian Women News	2
All in the Family	3
Advent Studies	3
Red Cross Blood Drive	4
New Members November 2011	5
Church Trip to Ghost Ranch	6
Adult Education in December	7
Advent Musings	8
December Calendar	9

**Deadline for
January *PresbyPost*
Friday, December 16, 2011**

Deadline for February *PresbyPost*
Friday, January 13, 2012

December at SCPC



Advent Study for Men

Thursdays, Dec. 1, 8, 15, 7:30 - 9:00 PM
"Portrait of a Radical: The Jesus Movement"
More details on page 3

Advent Bible Study

Tuesdays, Dec. 6, 13, 20, 6:00 - 7:00 PM
"From Longing to Receiving"
Child care provided
More details on page 3



84th Annual Christmas Candlelight Services

Sunday, Dec. 18, 4:00 and 7:00 PM
John Rutter's "Gloria!"
Child care provided
More details on page 2



Christmas Eve
WORSHIP

Christmas Eve Worship

6:30 PM - Organ prelude of Christmas music
7:00 PM - Lessons and Carols led by the
LOGOS Choirs
The Christmas story and carols
Child care provided

10:30 PM - Organ prelude of Christmas music
11:00 PM - Lessons and Carols led by the
Chancel Choir
The Christmas story and carols
Candlelighting

Christmas Day Worship

One service at 10:00 AM
Joel Blunk, preaching



Christmas Day
Worship Service



Christmas Dinner

Christmas Day Dinner

Sunday, December 25, 3:30 - 6:00 PM
Turkey and all the trimmings
Everyone is invited!
More details on page 7

New Year's Day Worship

One service at 10:00 AM
Susan Reisinger, preaching



New Year's Day
WORSHIP SERVICE

Merry Christmas

84th Annual
Christmas Candlelight Services
 Sunday, December 18
 4:00 and 7:00 PM



Prepare yourself for Christmas
 by sharing the 84 year old
 tradition of

Christmas Candlelight Services.

The Candlelight Choir has
 prepared "Gloria" by John
 Rutter and will invite you to
 join in singing Christmas Carols
 in our candlelit and decorated
 sanctuary. Readings, prayers,
 and much more.

Child care available

December Services and Sermons

Taizé Prayer - December 1, 6:00 PM
 First Thursday of each Month at 6:00 PM

Sunday, December 4, 2011 - 9:00 and 11:15 AM
 Second Sunday of Advent
 Susan Reisinger, preaching

Sunday, December 11, 2011 - 9:00 and 11:15 AM
 Third Sunday of Advent
 Joel Blunk, preaching

Sunday, December 18, 2011 - 9:00 and 11:15 AM
 Fourth Sunday of Advent
 Susan Reisinger, preaching

Saturday, December 24, 2011
 7:00 PM Lessons and Carols led by LOGOS
 11:00 PM Lessons and Carols led by the
 Chancel Choir

Sunday, December 25, 2011 - One service at 10:00 AM
 Christmas Day
 Joel Blunk, preaching

Presbyterian Women News

Plan early and give yourself a spectacular time at the 2012 Churchwide Gathering of Presbyterian Women in Orlando, FL, July 18-22, 2012. Look for more information posted on PW's bulletin board across from the Martin Room.

PW Board, Wednesday, Dec. 14, 1:30 PM in the Library

Esther Circle, Monday, Dec. 19, 1:00 PM in the Fireside Room. Christmas meeting without the exchange of gifts. Instead we contribute to the charity that the circle chooses. A short Very Special Christmas Story film may be shown and a joyful noise from our singing carols may be heard. No meeting in January.

Rebecca Circle, Tuesday, Dec. 20, 11:00 AM at the home of Hope Coder, 300 Lion's Hill Rd, W-303 (238-8717). Our meeting will be short and we will have a \$5.00 lunch in the Dining Room. Please call Hope and let her know that you will be there.

State College Presbyterian Church Staff

Interim Pastor - Susan Reisinger
 susanscpc@gmail.com

Associate Pastor - Joel Blunk
 joelscpc@gmail.com

Director of Education and Program - Deannine Shipman
 deanninescpc@gmail.com

Director of Music Ministry - Ned Wetherald
 nedscpc@gmail.com

Associate in Ministry - Diana Malcom
 dianascpc@gmail.com

Mission Associate - Kim Hunziker
 kimspsc@gmail.com

Membership and Program Associate - Martha Trout
 marthascpc@gmail.com

Church Secretary - Janet Heasley
 officescpc@gmail.com

Stay and Play Director - Laura Steager
 stayandplayscpc@gmail.com

Treasurer - Sharon Kasting
 treasurerscpc@gmail.com

Assistant Treasurer - Anne Thomas

Kitchen Coordinator - Maura McConnell

Child Care Coordinator - Katie Stone

FISH Assistants - Annie Robison and Zack Maser

Building Manager - Paul Sheets
 paulscpc@gmail.com

Assistant Custodian - Nelson Hite

Weekend Custodian - George Meyers

Office Hours - 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Phone (814)238-2422 Fax (814)238-3524

Website - www.scpresby.org

All in the Family

Sympathy of the congregation to friends and family on the death of:

Nancy Thilo, Martie Musso's mother, October 20, 2011

Dani Lague's Uncle Charles, October 29, 2011

Mario Manella, Cynthia MannellaNickell's father,
October 30, 2011

Jack McFadden, Kelley King's father, November 7, 2011

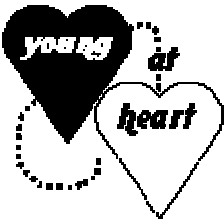
Helen Bell, November 14, 2011

Congratulations of the congregation on the wedding of:
Glenn Hunter and Beth Brazill, November 26, 2011

Congratulations of the congregation on the birth of:
Rachel Frances Gilmore, daughter of **Ryan and Stefanie Gilmore,** born October 19, 2011

Congratulations of the congregation on the baptism of:
Sadie Jane Evans, daughter of **Suzanne and Grayson Evans,** October 30, 2011

Young at Heart Friday, Dec. 9

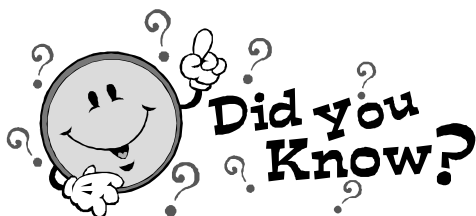


Young at Heart (over 55) fellowship group will meet Friday, Dec. 9 for a potluck supper and Christmas sing-along led by Ron Coder with Hope Coder at the piano. Get in the holiday mood with both fun and sacred music of the season. Supper starts promptly at 5:30, but most come around 5 for socializing with coffee and tea. Bring your own complete table service (knife, fork, spoon, plates for

dinner and dessert, cup and napkin) plus a dish to share (with serving utensils). Please wear your name tag or be prepared to be given a paper one for the evening. Questions?...call Linda Morrow (237-5858).

Did You Know...?

The State College Presbyterian Church pays an annual denominational apportionment of \$29.84 per active member to the Presbytery, Synod and Presbyterian Church (USA). This is an assessment that the local churches contribute for the support of the larger church. For our church that amount comes to \$35,390 in 2012. This is based on the total number of folks we have listed on the active membership roll. The Membership Committee hopes you will keep this in mind when considering your level of financial support for the 2012 budget.



Advent Bible Study

You are invited to join us for the Advent Bible Study for adults entitled, "From Longing to Receiving," on Tuesdays, 6:00 - 7:00 PM in the Martin Room. We will be tracing important Advent themes of longing for God's help, anticipating God's presence among us, recognizing God's work among us, and receiving God's new gifts to us.

This Bible study is planned during a time when LOGOS children are still in their program, and there is childcare available for young children up to Kindergarten age in Room 101.

The December dates for this study will be December 6, 13, and 20. The facilitators for this study will be Gene and Kim Marsh. All are welcome to join us!

Advent Devotionals

Advent is a great time to listen for the voice of God as we wait for the incarnation of God's own self in our world. Through worship, celebration, devotion, and reflection we come to understand the importance of this time. Advent gives us so much more to be about than the regular busyness of the season, something richer and deeper.

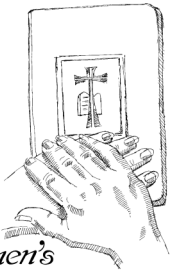


DEVOTIONALS

This year, SCPC is offering a variety of Advent Devotionals for adults and for children/families. Check out the table of resources at the back of the sanctuary.

Invitation to Women's Bible Study

The Women's Bible Study Group, open to all women, will be focusing on Matthew 5:6 - "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness" - at its Dec. 15 gathering from 1:00 to 3:00 PM at the home of Janice Johnson, 867 Webster Dr. Led by Kim Reese, more than a dozen women have been studying the Beatitudes. Newcomers are welcome to attend for just one session or the whole once a month series. For December, attendees are asked to also read Psalm 107: 1-9. Details are available from Kim Reese (596-2327 or kimreese@verizon.net).



Women's Bible Study

Advent Study for Men

The Men's Covenant Group is hosting a three part Advent study on the popular video, *Portrait of a Radical: The Jesus Movement*, featuring Huston Smith, Richard Rohr, and Allen Dwight Callahan. The video explores the dynamic and passionate message of Jesus and the movement that followed. We'll use a study guide from the Center for Action and Contemplation intended to enrich the understanding and experience of Jesus at a deeper level. Men of all ages are invited to attend on three consecutive Thursdays in Advent, December 1, 8, 15, 7:30-9:00 PM in Room 10. If you have any questions, see Joel Blunk.



Just and Fair Christmas Shopping

It's time to do some just & fair shopping for your Christmas giving! Downstairs in the Social Hall, between services on December 4 and 11, you can do just that:

(1) SERRV is a nonprofit organization that works to eradicate poverty by providing opportunity and support to artisans and farmers throughout the developing world. When you buy SERRV products you are paying the men and women who create these beautiful products a fair wage. A large selection of items will be available for purchase from SERRV.

(2) Fair trade coffee and chocolate items will be available for purchase from Equal Exchange, at cost. You can even make a gift basket.

(3) And, if you're buying for that special someone in your life who has everything, consider picking up one of the alternative gift giving catalogs from our mission partners, which will be available next to the SERRV sale. Alternative gift giving allows you to make a donation (often in the form of a specific item) to a charitable organization in the name of your gift recipient.

OUT OF THE COLD: Centre County

SCPC is gearing up to be a host site for OOTC3 in January. We need lots of host and overnight volunteers to help throughout the month. Ideally, the host coordinator and at least one nightly volunteer will be members/friends of SCPC. There are three volunteer trainings scheduled for the first part of December:

Thursday, December 1, 6-8 PM, St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 208 W. Foster Ave

Saturday, December 3, 9-11 AM, University Mennonite Church, 1606 Norma Street

Monday, December 5, 7-9 PM, Assembly of God, 2201 University Drive

More will be scheduled as we move through the season. Please watch the bulletin board outside Susan's office and bulletin/worship announcements for more information and training dates. If you would like to know more about the specifics of how SCPC's building will be used, please feel free to contact Kim Hunziker, Mission Associate (kimSCPC@gmail.com or 238-2422).

Red Cross Blood Drive

Mount Nittany Medical Center uses an average of 10 pints of blood per day/300 per month. Donors give ONE pint per person. That's a lot of donors needed to keep the blood flowing at Mount Nittany Medical Center. On Monday, December 5th, SCPC is hosting a blood drive from 1pm to 7pm. Our goal is to get a minimum of 30 pints which helps keep our hospital's blood flowing for just three days. We need donors to share the gift of life and helpers to stock the canteen (with cookies and other snacks) and Drive-day volunteers to greet, work in the canteen, and to serve as escorts donors. To donate blood, sign up online for an appointment at www.givelife.org (search by zip code to find the schedule for SCPC). To offer your assistance during the drive, contact Kim Hunziker (kimSCPC@gmail.com / 238-2422).



Angel Tree Effort Continues

The Angel Tree has been a wonderful mission effort from our church to the local community for many years. Please help us support your neighbors in need by selecting one or more angels with gift requests from local agencies, which are available on the church bridge. Here's how it works. Each request is printed on double angels. You keep one angel to tape to your gift and hang its twin on the tree. You also need to sign the list from the agency so we'll know who's buying what. You purchase the gift requested and return it to the church by December 12.

Please take as many angels as you can, especially those containing individual requests. A couple of important notes:

- If an individual request includes several items, you only need to buy one of the items listed.
- If you buy an individual gift (with a star on it), please take one of the ornaments made by our Sunday School classes and put it with the wrapped gift.
- If you purchase a gift card, please bring it to the church office in an envelope so that it doesn't get lost in the eventual pile of presents.

The needs in our community continue to grow. The Mission Ministry Unit is hoping we can respond to all of our 800+ requests. Please join us in this simple and critically important holiday tradition.



Christmas Day Dinner

Yes, it is time to start talking turkey, Christmas Dinner Turkey that is! Very soon you will be given the opportunity to cook, volunteer your time, or both for this year's Christmas Day dinner. As you may have guessed the dinner takes place on Christmas Day and runs from 3:30 – 6:00 PM. Any and all are invited so spread the word, tell your neighbors, alert the media!

Last year we served a record number of guests from outside of our congregation and we aim to continue that trend this year. We are also aware that there are many in our community that are required to be at work instead of with their families on Christmas Day. While we cannot serve the entire hospital staff, for instance, if you have some ideas for people that may appreciate a home cooked meal on Christmas Day we'd love to hear from you.

There are special opportunities to serve: We could really use a chairperson for the cleanup and putting the various pieces of the Church back together at the end of the night. We also need someone to be in charge of decorating the tables in the Social Hall.

Call Greg Elliott if you have questions, would like to chair one of the positions mentioned, or if you have suggestions for meal deliveries: 571-1579 (leave a message).

The 2011 Christmas Dinner Committee thanks you for your support and we look forward to another great year serving our community!

New Members November 2011

Mary Boutselis joins by Reaffirmation of Faith. Mary was raised in the Catholic Church and at some point realized that it wasn't a good fit for her. She "drifted" in College and Graduate School reading about Eastern Philosophy and Mysticism and has long practiced Zen Buddhism. She has participated in a weekly meditation group and met other Christians there. Her son, Will Jackson, found a home in FISH and that solidified her desire to find a church home. Will attended Stay and Play PreSchool when he was a child. The pieces came together and she found a contemplative thread here at SCPC – a feeling of God's presence. Mary is a psychologist here in State College and enjoys gardening, biking, reading and cooking.

Heather Bruhn joins by Reaffirmation of Faith. She was raised in a family whose mother was Catholic and whose father converted to Catholicism. When she was still young they started attending a fundamentalist church and then eventually settled somewhere in the middle – in a Presbyterian Church. She attended a Methodist Church while in college – mostly because of the emphasis on mission – and finds SCPC to be of the same mission-mind. She was married in this church 16 years ago but it was a long time until she came back to worship. She and her husband Paul have a son, Will, who attends Stay and Play. She got to know a lot of the people here and it feels right to join the congregation. Heather has a PhD in Art History and is an adjunct Art History Instructor, teaching e-learning and night classes for Penn State. She loves to cook, garden and travel.

Sam Bufford and Julia Metzger join us by Letter of Transfer from St. Peter's by the Sea Presbyterian Church in Rancho Palos Verdes, CA. They "retired" to State College last January to be associated with the Law School at Penn State. Julie a retired lawyer, and Sam a retired Bankruptcy Judge. As a child Julie's parents took her to church and she was baptized in the Presbyterian Church. When she and Sam were married they lived in IL where they had a close knit neighborhood. Some neighbors took them to a Presbyterian Church there where there was a good music program for Sam. (Sam already sings in the Chancel Choir.) When they moved to CA they became very active in St. Peter's Church. Julie worked with the Presbytery while they were living there. They are now both adjunct Law Professors with the Law School at Penn State. Sam enjoys singing, travel and skiing and Julie also enjoys hiking, reading and bird-watching.

Dale and Barbara Cox join us by Letter of Transfer from Fanwood Presbyterian Church in Fanwood, NJ. Dale, a retired Orthodontist, was raised a Presbyterian in Uniontown, PA and graduated from the University of Pittsburgh. Barbara grew up in NJ and was raised in the Presbyterian Church. When they lived in NJ they were very active in their small church. Dale is an ordained Elder and Barbara is an ordained Elder and Deacon. They moved here about two years ago, saw the activities here, and knew they had found a new church home. Barbara is an Administrative Coordinator for Penn State's Justice Center for Research. Their main hobby is their (adult) children but they enjoy sports, woodworking (Dale) cooking, and music (Barbara).

Alex and Lea Hagen join by Reaffirmation of Faith. They are first year graduate students at Penn State in the Department of Astronomy and Astrophysics. They moved to State College a few months ago and are recent newlyweds of 8 months. They had no real church experience until college where they got involved in a

University Christian Fellowship at the Rolling Hills Christian Church in El Dorado Hills, CA. When they came to visit SCPC they saw that this church has the same values that they were looking for. Alex enjoys hiking (though he's not so sure about the NE weather!), computers and reading. Lea loves to read and cook, and looks forward to when she will have more time for it.

Glenn Hunter and Beth Brazil join by Reaffirmation of Faith. They were married here at SCPC in November. Glenn was raised in the Methodist Church in northwest Indiana and came to Penn State in the 90's. He is a Research Assistant in the Meteorology Department at Penn State. Beth was baptized in the Methodist Church but grew up here in State College in the University Baptist and Brethren Church. As a teenager she stopped going to Church. She is a Tech Supportability Engineer for a large company and telecommutes 100% of the time. When Glenn and Beth became engaged they wanted to find a church home for Beth's 6 year old daughter, Jessica. They were going to shop around for churches but started at SCPC and didn't look further. Jesse loves the LOGOS program and Sunday School. Glenn's hobbies include running, volleyball, and learning to be a Dad, and Beth enjoys yoga and reading.

Robert Matsko joins as an Affiliate Member and keeps his Church membership at his home church of St. Luke's Lutheran Church in Obelisk, PA. He is a sophomore at Penn State in Psychology. He was baptized and raised in the Lutheran Church in the Philadelphia area. When he was in High School he found that he was making a conscious decision to go to church and was active in his youth group. He lives close by to SCPC so found it a logical choice to worship here and is looking forward to getting involved while he is a student here.

David and Jill Musser join by Reaffirmation of Faith. Their high school age daughter joined FISH and that is what brought them to this church. They attended church in Jill's home town 3 hours away on occasion, but found that wasn't happening too often so they didn't go to church for a while. It didn't feel right so they wanted to get back to being involved in a church. They know a lot of people here at SCPC and it felt like the right choice for them and their kids Veronica, 11th grade, and Nathan, 3rd grade. David is a Sales Engineer and telecommutes for Harmonic, a Fiberoptics company in San Jose, CA and Jill is in Human Resources at Penn State. They enjoy spending time with their kids, outdoor activities and reading.

Brady and Melanie Wassom join us by Letter of Transfer from Hope Presbyterian Church in Austin, TX. Brady didn't grow up in a church – his father was in the military so he spent some of his childhood in Saudi Arabia. Later, he grew up in VA and Pittsburgh. After he and Melanie were married they moved to the Philadelphia area. He changed jobs and went to Austin, TX where they had a great experience at Hope Presbyterian Church. Melanie was raised in VA and doesn't remember going to church as a child except for one year where her family attended an Episcopal Church and she participated in some programs. When they moved their family to State College they were inclined to find a Presbyterian Church to call home. Brady is a Safety Health and Environmental Advisor for Croda, Inc., in Mill Hall. Melanie is the Chief Daily Operations Officer (otherwise known as a stay at home mom) for their family. She spent some years as a Middle School Art Teacher. They have two daughters, Mariele who is 6 years old and Lea who is 3. Brady's hobbies include music, family and spending time outdoors and Melanie enjoys painting and cooking.

New Member Directory

Mary Boutselis
318 Strawberry Hill Road
Centre Hall, PA 16828
814-364-2567
mabouts@earthlink.net

Heather Bruhn
1998 Norwood Lane
State College, PA 16803
814-867-4422
mcbruhn@gmail.com

Sam Bufford and Julia Metzger
169 Sandy Ridge Rd.
State College, PA 16803
814-308-9775
slb61@law.psu.edu (Sam)
jmmetzger@earthlink.net (Julie)

Dale and Barbara Cox
2465 Circleville Rd., Unit 126
State College, PA 16803
814-308-8470
bdjc44@aol.com

Alex and Lea Hagen
411 Waupelani Dr., Apt C238
State College, PA 16801
916-425-3581 (Alex)
619-756-2434 (Lea)
mr.alex.hagen@gmail.com
lea.zernow.hagen@gmail.com

Glenn Hunter and Beth Brazill (Hunter)
102 Raleigh Ave.
State College, PA 16801
814-380-0145 (Glenn)
814-360-8404 (Beth)
hunter@meteo.psu.edu
bethmb13@yahoo.com

Robert Matsko (Affiliate Member)
236 S. Fraser St.
State College, PA 16801
484-941-4743
rom5197@psu.edu

David and Jill Musser
1247 Oak Ridge Ave.
State College, PA 16801
814-237-0623
triple_link@hotmail.com (David)
jillmusser@comcast.net

Brady and Melanie Wassom
118 E. Lytle Ave.
State College, PA 16801
865-382-1828 (Brady)
610-574-7027 (Melanie)
bwassom@yahoo.com (Brady)
melanerae@yahoo.com (Melanie)

Church Trip to Ghost Ranch

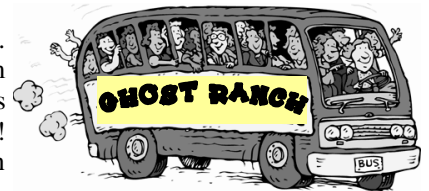
It's hard to believe we could be thinking about next summer soon – but we soon will be. SO, it's time to let you know we hope you will consider participating in our church trip to Ghost Ranch, New Mexico, July 15-22. As a group, we will be traveling to this beautiful PC(USA) Conference Center. Individually or as a family, you will register for the programs on site that week that fit your desires (art, spirituality, recreation, environment care, health & wholeness, archeology, music, etc).

To help you discern this great opportunity, we suggest that you check out Ghost Ranch's website and on-line catalog. Currently their 2012 summer offerings are not posted, but you can get an idea of the offerings by downloading a 2011 Ghost Ranch catalogue and seeing what they offer:

<http://www.ghost ranch.org/courses-and-retreats/download-the-ghost-ranch-catalog>

The reason we are choosing this week is that we want to offer you the chance to experience John Phillip Newell (Iona) who is in residence there during July, as well as allow us to stay in town for all the fun early-mid July things that go on in State College.

Brochures will be around the church soon. Annie Robison, Diana Malcom, or Kim Hunziker can give you more information as well. Just get in touch with us and ask! Sponsored by SCPC's Spiritual Formation Unit.



Stay and Play Preschool Update

We are actively involved in celebrating the holidays during our play with the children. Halloween gave us all an opportunity to dress up in character (the chance to be even sillier than normal) and go on parade for our families and the church staff. Thanksgiving has been a great time to reflect on what we are all thankful for in our lives (for the S&P staff – the children remind us daily of how fortunate we are to be part of their precious lives). And now with the season of Advent upon us, we are looking to Christmas with great excitement – all of us have the excitement of a child. Many of the classes will also be learning about other holidays such as Kwanza, Hanukkah, Las Posadas and maybe more. We like to learn about other traditions and customs. Then in January, the children will share a music and art show with their families, too. Nov. 4 brought us a special event entitled "It's a Small World" put on by 8 PSU students for a Recreation Parks and Tourism Management Class. They took us to Madagascar, Mexico, Australia, China and they brought Irish dancers in for us to watch and dance with. It was a marvelous journey for all! Stay and Play staff have decided to continue our Small World theme with our Christmas Tree for the "Festival of the Trees," ornaments from the Philippines, France, Germany, Mexico and more. If you go to see the trees at the festival this year, make sure to see ours.

We thank those who have donated items for crafting, new multicultural dress up clothes (wow do the children LOVE to dress up!) and time in prayer or deed. The children are really benefiting from their experience here and we are all benefiting from the joy they share.

If you are too busy, yet looking for ways to help the preschool, an extremely simple thing is to save your Campbell soup can labels, goldfish cracker UPC labels, etc. to donate to the Labels for Education Program. (There are forms noting what products are participating beside the collection box.) There is a red label collection box on the cabinet in the entrance by the parking lot or you can drop them in the S&P or church office. We earn points for each label we send that we can then put toward supplies and equipment for the school.

We wish you all a very joyous and child-like holiday!

"Frohe Weihnachten!" "Maligayang Pasko" "Feliz Navidad" "Joyeux Noël" "Mele Kalikimaka" "Saint Dan Fai Lok" "Sung Tan Chuk Ha"

Adult Education in December

December is a busy time in the church. It is also a time of deep spiritual significance. The Adult Ed topics for this month are focused on themes that relate directly to Christmas as experienced in our time. Classes are held from 10:15 to 11:00 AM Sunday. Please check each Sunday's bulletin for any changes.

Class Offerings	December			
	4	11	18	25
Lectio Divina with the Christmas Story	x	x	x	
Parents as Spiritual Nurturers	x			
The Bible: Start to Finish	x	x	x	
Lend a Hand: Stories and Pictures		x		
The Origins of Christmas Traditions			x	

"Lectio Divina with the Christmas Story" Join SCPC staff and members of the Spiritual Formation Ministry Unit (SFMU) as together we learn about the ancient spiritual practices of "Lectio Divina", which is Latin for "sacred reading". You are invited to listen with your heart as we look at the stories of the Annunciation, the Magnificat, and the birth of Jesus. This practice will help make these stories come alive in your life. We meet in Westminster Hall on Dec. 4th and then Room 10 on Dec. 11th and 18th.

"Parents as Spiritual Nurturers" Please join Deannine Shipman, Jackie Naginey Hook, and other parents as they share meaningful Christmas traditions in their families. We will also discuss ways to keep a balance in your family life during Advent and beyond. Come to Room 10.

"The Bible: Start to Finish" In December Bruce Knoll concludes this informative fall series. Focus remains on an overview of the whole Bible, seeing how its various books combine to form a cohesive unity. With each book, we cross-reference the other books in the Bible and put them in their historical context. The class meets in Room 11

"Lend a Hand: Stories and Pictures" Join Kim Hunziker and others who have spent several days this fall helping Lend a Hand, a mission arm of the Carlisle Presbytery. They assisted in the hard work of helping homeowners muck out and recover their homes from the devastating flooding that came with Hurricane Irene, and also tropical storm Lee that followed in September. We'll relate stories and share pictures. Come to Westminster Hall.

"The Origins of Christmas Traditions" Roger Snyder will share his knowledge and interest in the many Christmas traditions that have evolved since the 1700's. Various customs we presently take for granted are actually rather recent within the long-term celebration of Christmas through the centuries. This informative discussion will be in Westminster Hall.



LOGOS News

LOGOS kids have been having a blast Tuesday nights, including a *blast from the past* with Sock Hop Night. Poodle skirts and jean jackets have made a comeback. The next few weeks of the Christmas season will fly by, so get ready. Bring your sombrero for our trip to Mexico on our Mexican Fiesta Night, no need for suntan lotion on our trip to the beach for our Beach Party Night, and we'll remember the spirit of Christmas with our very own Charlie Brown's Christmas Party.

Reminders

Tuesday, December 20 4:30-6:00 PM -- Christmas Eve Rehearsal –No dinner will be served that evening.

Christmas Eve Service 7:00 pm – Please have children arrive at 6:30 PM to get warmed up and lined up.

Tuesday, January 3, 2012 6:00 - 8:00 PM Join us at **Penn Skates** for skating, cookies, and fun with our LOGOS family. (\$2 if you need to rent skates.)



A BIG FISH THANK YOU!

Our Fellowship In Senior High Youth Group would like to thank you for supporting the recent Cookie Baking Fund Raiser. We're grateful for the many ways this congregation helps to make FISH what it is! With that in mind, we'd like to let you know well in advance that we are taking a year off from hosting the annual FISH Spaghetti Dinner, usually scheduled around Valentine's Day. Our winter retreat is later this year, falling in early February, and we are consciously making an effort to not over-commit ourselves. Still, we want to find other ways to show our appreciation to the church and community for all the support, so we're exploring options. If you have any ideas, please let us know! In the meantime, thanks again and happy holidays! FISH is an open and all-inclusive community where everyone is safe to come as they are and grow in love.





Advent Musings

At one of the busiest times of year, the Christian church issues an invitation to slow down.

Try to imagine the time leading up to Christmas as a thoughtful time, a reflective time.

In the Christian Year, Advent is a time for waiting.

It is a time of preparation.

It is a time to center your heart and mind in the truth of this season.

God is with us.

God is for us.

God is in us.

God came to us.

God comes to us still.

God will come to us always and forever.

Advent invites us into a reality different from the world's emphasis on things.

Advent reminds us that God walks with us through the valleys and rugged paths of life.

Advent anticipates a time when God will come again in fullness.

The gifts of this season have been, are, and forever will be

hope

peace

joy

love.

In this season of Advent,
and in the years ahead,
may God's blessings of hope, love, joy and peace
grow deeper in your heart and in all that you do!

Submitted by Pastor Susan



STATE COLLEGE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
 132 West Beaver Avenue
 State College, PA 16801

NONPROFIT ORG.
 U.S. POSTAGE
 PAID
 STATE COLLEGE, PA
 PERMIT NO. 69

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Vol. LIII

Number 11

MINISTRY ASSIGNMENTS OF SESSION MEMBERS • 2011

Clerk of Session and Nominating Committee Chair
 Sharon Faulkner

Building

Glen Blume, chair
John DiNunzio
*Phil Zimmerman**
Jim DeWolfe

Christian Education

Amy Elliott, chair
Rebecca Lundin
Dan Sharda (Adult Ed)

Mission

Katherine Allen, chair
Jeff Gugino
*Phil Zimmerman**

Congregational Fellowship

Carol Herrmann
Linda Margusity
Jerry Sawyer, chair

Worship

Meg Meloy, chair
Nancy Nagel
John Robison

Spiritual Formation

Geoff Harford
Jackie Naginey Hook, chair
Monica Manning

Financial Affairs

Brent Ambrose
Ken Manno (Stewardship)
Ann McLaren, chair
Sharon Mortensen
Phil Zimmerman

Membership

Casey Hovick
Wendy Huffard, co-chair
Brenda Lucas, co-chair
Sue Powers

Personnel

Sharon Faulkner
Tom King, chair
Cynthia Manella Nickell

**Secondary Committee*

**NEWSLETTER
 STAFF**

Charlotte Baldwin
Lina Hood
Jane Linsky
Brenda Loftus
Winnie O'Halloran
Cheryl Price
Ned Wetherald