

Are you New to CCUPC? Visiting with us for the first time? We are excited you joined us for worship. To connect with us and learn more about our church family, text **WELCOME** to 724-906-4624. You are also encouraged to sign in on the registration pad passed in your pew and provide your contact information.

The Spiritual Growth Committee is encouraging our students (in lieu of individual Sunday School Teacher gifts) to make a donation to the **“Sunday School Project”** that will benefit area families who are in need this Christmas. The church office receives calls every year from parents who are unable to purchase gifts for their children for Christmas. You can purchase Giant Eagle or WalMart gift cards from the Scrip Gift Card Center. Place the gift card(s) in a pew envelope and write **“Sunday School Project”** on the front.

There are still tags on the **Giving Tree** which is located in the Greeting Area. We are sponsoring the Mars Home for Youth, CityView Church, the Pittsburgh Project, VOICe, and local people in our community who are in need. *The gifts are to be brought back to the church unwrapped by Sunday, December 18th* (next Sunday). If you're not able to shop, purchase a scrip gift card and someone from the Mission Team will shop for you - just let us know. If you have questions, feel free to call Dara Marner (cell/724-316-3475).

Grease up those baking sheets! The youth groups will be hosting their annual **Cookie Sale next Sunday, December 18th**. They are accepting donations of Christmas type cookies from the congregation (except chocolate chip) in the church office Monday through Friday, December 12th - 16th from 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM, *or* drop them off Friday evening from 6:30 - 7:00 PM in the Greeting Area. All donations need to be turned in by 7:00 PM on Friday, December 16th as the youth groups will be assembling the trays that evening. After the trays are assembled, the **Youth Group Cookie Party** will begin!!! All youth (3rd-12th grades) are invited to help out and stay for the party. There will be pizza and a \$5 gift card exchange (everyone attending should bring a gift card). Any questions, please contact Pastor Dena.

The administrative expenses for the Presbyterian Church (USA) are covered by Per Capita funds. The **2017 Per Capita amount is \$43.34 per confirmed member**. Our Session has chosen to designate the total amount of per capita received for the work of Beaver-Butler Presbytery unless you specify otherwise. We will be happy to make available to you the breakdown for Synod and General Assembly if you have the desire to contribute to them. If you have any questions you may talk with Pastor Moran.

If you would like to update your photo for the **2017 CCUPC Directory**, the Deacons will be available to take photos after the worship service until December 18th. Or, you can send a family photo to photos@ccupc.org. Be sure to include the name(s) of all family members in the photo. Come on over by the “coffee area” in the Greeting Area for your photo session!

Food Bank Sunday is Sunday, December 18th. We are collecting non-perishable food items and paper products for the residents of VOICe (Victim Outreach Intervention Center). The *Items of the Month* is pasta and pasta sauce. All items should be *un-opened* and *non-perishable* (not requiring refrigeration or freezing, and no produce).

THIS WEEK AT CCUPC

<u>Day/Time</u>	<u>Activity</u>	<u>Location</u>
SUNDAY 12/11	<i>Pray for Ireland</i>	
9:00 am	- Sunday School	Both Levels
10:00 am	- Worship	Sanctuary
	- Coffee Social	Greeting Area
	- Villages F & H	
11:15 am	- Deacons Meeting	Conference Rm.
5:00 pm	- Jr. Youth Group	Lower Level
6:30 pm	- Youth Group	Lower Level
MONDAY 12/12		
7:00 pm	- Worship Team Rehearsal	Sanctuary
	- Mission Committee Meeting	Conference Rm.
TUESDAY 12/13		
8:30 am	- Men's Breakfast/Bible Study	Conference Rm.
THURSDAY 12/15		
7:00 pm	- Property/Maintenance Meeting	Conference Rm.
FRIDAY 12/16		
6:30 pm	- Youth Group Cookie Party	Greeting Area
SUNDAY 12/18	<i>Pray for Israel</i>	
	<i>Youth Group Cookie Sale</i>	
9:00 am	- Sunday School	Both Levels
10:00 am	- Worship	Sanctuary
	- Coffee Social	Greeting Area
	- Village G	
6:00 pm	- <i>Blue Christmas Service</i>	Sanctuary
	- NO Youth Groups	

A LOOK AHEAD AT OUR SCHEDULE:

- Our **Blue Christmas Service** will be on Sunday, December 18th at 6:00 PM.
- **Luminary set-up** will be Friday, December 23rd at 9:00 AM.
- **Christmas Eve Services** will be at 6:00, 8:00, and 10:00 PM.
- We will have **worship on Christmas Day** at 10:00 AM. There will be **no** KFC, TLC, Sunday School or Youth Groups on this day.
- The 2017 Worship Flower Schedule is available on the nametag table in the Greeting Area.

Pick up your **2017 Giving Envelopes** that are located in the Greeting Area. If you find that you do not have a box of envelopes and would like one, please write your name on the sheet provided. They will be ordered the end of January.

Cranberry Community U. P. Church
 2662 Rochester Road
 Cranberry Township PA 16066
 724-776-5310 <http://www.ccupc.org>
 Pastor James M. Moran 724-759-4577
 Pastor Nadine L. Roy 412-848-0834



Cranberry Community
United Presbyterian Church



December 11, 2016

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP
A WEEKLY CELEBRATION OF THE RESURRECTION

The Third Sunday of Advent

IN PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

“Do not put your trust in princes, in human beings, who cannot save. Blessed are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord their God. He is the Maker of heaven and earth, the sea, and everything in them -- He remains faithful forever.” Psalm 146:3,5-6

The Welcome and Announcements

The Prelude

“Ding Dong, Merrily on High”

Ayden Wood

“Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for Him.” Psalm 37:7

(If you have a prayer request, please fill out a green prayer card and pass it to the center aisle as they will be collected during the first hymn and included during the prayer time)

The Call to Worship

WE WORSHIP IN PRAISE

*A Carol #112

“Away in a Manger”

WE WORSHIP IN PRAYER

*The Call to Confession

*The Unison Prayer of Confession

Holy God, in the light of Your holiness, we see ourselves as we really are, and we are ashamed. We confess that we are people of impure thoughts and unclean lips; we think too highly of ourselves and too little of others. We cling so tightly to the treasures of this world that we cannot open our hands to receive blessings from above. Our feet follow the paths of sin; we wander so far astray that we become strangers to righteousness. Forgive us, and set us again on the path that leads to life. Deal with us not as we deserve, but according to Your mercy; not because we are worthy but because You are gracious. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*The Assurance of Forgiveness

*Glorifying God

“We Will Glorify”

**We will glorify the King of kings, we will glorify the Lamb.
 We will glorify the Lord of lords, who is the great I AM.**

The Joys, Concerns, and Prayers of God's People

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

WE WORSHIP IN GIVING

Our Invitation to Give

The Offertory

The Children's Choir

"Go, Tell it on the Mountain"

*Praising God #556 **"Praise God From Whom All Blessings"**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise Him all creatures here below.

Praise Him above ye heavenly host.

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*The Prayer of Dedication

WE WORSHIP IN PROCLAMATION

*The Greeting *(Please share words of peace, encouragement, and hope)*

The Children's Lesson and Prayer *(The children may come forward)*

'The children 3 years old - Kindergarten may now leave for TLC out the back doors of the Sanctuary with Miss Gynni)

'The children who are in 1st - 3rd grades may now leave for KFC out the back doors of the Sanctuary)

The Scripture Lesson

Isaiah 61:1-4; 8-11

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The Sermon

Pastor James M. Moran

"RESCUED!"

GOING IN GOD'S NAME

*A Hymn

"One Small Child"

One small child in a land of a thousand,

One small dream of a Savior that night.

One small hand reaching out to the starlight,

One small city of life, one small city of life.

One king bringing his gold and riches,

One king ruling an army of might.

One king kneeling with incense and candle light,

One King bringing us life, one King bringing us life.

See Him lying, a cradle beneath Him,

See Him smiling in the stall.

See His mother praising his Father,

See His tiny eyelids fall.

One small light from the flame of a candle,

One small light from a city of might.

One small light from the stars in the endless night,

One small light from His face, one small light from His face.

See the shepherds kneeling before Him,

See the kings on bended knee.

See the mother praising His Father,

See the blessed Infant sleep.

One small child in a land of a thousand,

One small dream in a people of might.

One small hand reaching out to the starlight,

One small Savior of life, one small Savior of life.

*The Benediction

The Postlude

"Carol of the Bells"

*Please stand as you are able.

* * *

The vases of flowers are given by Mike and Jo Goddard to the glory of God, and in celebration of their grandson, Dylan, on his 4th birthday.

The Christmas Tree in the Greeting Area is given by a family in our church to the glory of God.

The Christmas Tree in the Sanctuary is given by Amy, Isaac, Natalie, and Sarah McKinley in sincere appreciation of the love and support they receive from their church family.

Please keep these family members and friends in your prayers:

Rick Alexander (Diane Alexander), the Bacho family (Becky Ahlgren), Geneva Cable (Mindy Cable), the family of Kyle Darville (Debbie Lovetro), Debbie Fisher (Jim Fisher), the Glass family (Callie Kaczmarek), Lillian Grundler (Dick Grundler), Ryan King (Cindy Miller), Barry Lavery (Dale & Diane Jacobs), Kim Long (Nancy Hodges), Jim Miller (CCUPC member), Harriet Murray (Bill Murray), Karen Raman (CCUPC member), William Rose (Callie Kaczmarek), the family of Debbie Slacks (Melinda & Charlie Marner), Christina Taylor (Bob & Donna Taylor), Tim (Shirl Lonie), and Roberta Zolkoski (Marcy & John Hammann).

Congratulations are extended to Charlie and Melinda Marner, and Natalie and Wesley Marks on the birth of their daughter/sister, Alyssa Elise. Proud grandparents are Dara and Doug Marner. Congratulations to all!!

The Mission Committee shares their THANKSGIVING for everyone who brought food and came to eat at the Crockpot Lunch. \$350 was brought in for the missions of CCUPC.

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I WAS JUST THINKING . .

Our sermon today will focus on the theme of rescue. In preparation for this message, I found the following written by David E. Leininger, which I found stimulating to my thinking and I hope you will be equally stimulated.

"An anonymous author made this striking comparison: 'Socrates taught for 40 years, Plato for 50, Aristotle for 40, and Jesus for only 3. Yet the influence of Christ's 3-year ministry infinitely transcends the impact left by the combined 130 years of teaching from these men, who were among the greatest philosophers of all antiquity. Jesus painted no pictures yet some of the finest paintings of Raphael, Michelangelo, and Leonardo da Vinci received their inspiration from him. Jesus wrote no poetry but Dante, Milton, and scores of the world's greatest poets were inspired by him. Jesus composed no music still Haydn, Handel, Beethoven, Bach, and Mendelssohn reached their highest perfection of melody in the hymns, symphonies, and oratorios they composed in his praise. Every sphere of human greatness has been enriched by this humble Carpenter of Nazareth.

'His unique contribution to humanity is the salvation of the soul! Philosophy could not accomplish that. Nor art. Nor literature. Nor music. Only Jesus Christ can break the enslaving chains of sin. He alone can speak peace to the human heart, strengthen the weak, and give life to those who are spiritually dead.'"

Bless Your Hearts,

Pastor Jim

Giving space to those who struggle to find joy....The holidays can be a time of mixed emotions, especially when there is grief, loss, loneliness, or regret. Sometimes it's just hard to get into the joyful spirit of Christmas. CCUPC is hosting a worship service for healing and wholeness focusing on the hope and promise of the season, even in the midst of sorrow. Together we celebrate a God who doesn't leave us, especially during difficulties and heartache. We hope that you will join us on December 18th at 6:00 PM, and invite others whose spirits may be touched by such a worship service. Postcard invitations are available on the Spiritual Growth Table.

Every year we decorate the church property on Christmas Eve with luminaries that have been sponsored by a family in our church. The purchase of the candles can be funded in memory or in honor of a loved one. Recognition will be noted each week in the bulletin during Advent. Please contact the church office (office@ccupc.org/724-776-5310) if you're interested.

We will be **setting up the luminaries** on **Friday, December 23rd at 9:00 AM** for the Candlelight services on Christmas Eve. If you are able to help, please sign "LUM" on the registration sheet in the sign-up box as it is passed to you this morning.