



September 2015

Interim Pastor
Rev. Kathy Riley

Session

Class of 2016

Jeff Buckhout
Jim Burdick
Walt Cottongim

Class of 2017

Dan Alexander
Meaghan Mullin

Class of 2018

Stacey Ross
Shannon Murphy
Tim Reed

Deacon Board

Class of 2016

Karen Greenhow
Doug Thompson

Class of 2017

Sheryl Eichelberger
Sarah Cottongim

Class of 2018

Becky Burdick

Clarion Editor

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Crescent Springs
Presbyterian Church



Now that summer is over, it is time for new beginnings again here at CSPC. Sunday school for all ages is up and running, and Wednesday evening Bible Study has resumed. And, it is time to turn our attention to some **planning for the coming months**. You have heard in congregational gatherings, session and deacon meetings, committee meetings, and in sermons about our need to engage in some strategic planning. Now that summer vacations are pleasant memories and school and jobs have geared up again, it is time to move into action.

I have scheduled an organizational meeting for Thursday October 8th. All committee chairs are being invited- and **ALL** members and friends of CSPC are welcome! As most of you have heard me say, in every congregation there is a balance between moving forward during the interim time and waiting for the new pastor. I see strong evidence that we are moving forward here! The Mission Committee has new ministries and more ideas, and a ton of energy! The small but mighty Building and Grounds Committee has accomplished a great deal with the rehab and selling of both houses, securing bids on needed work in the church building, and making a list of needed repairs- not to mention keeping the building in good shape.

The Finance and Stewardship Committee is doing a great job of keeping an eye on the budget and finding sound ways to fund needed projects, and is working up a good stewardship campaign for fall. Christian Education has an exciting new plan of rotational leadership in the Sunday school classes, and the Flames are enthusiastic and active! There's been a good response to the plans for Wednesday Bible study. The Deacons are planning both new and familiar fellowship events on a monthly basis. The Worship Committee has ordered new banners and will continue to work on the sanctuary; Sam and I are working with the talented and dedicated Praise Band to expand the band's song and hymn lists.

The area we have only just begun to address is in the area of new members and evangelism. It has been important to get our internal ministries in order with strengthened and rejuvenated committees. The work I have mentioned here, with ongoing enthusiasm and energy, provides a basic framework for a strategic plan. The Fourth of July Parade, Wild Wednesday, and our new CSPC t-shirts worn out and about in our communities are the first steps in the area of getting ourselves and our name out in the community. But it is time to do more- to build on our strengths and try new things. We need to take risks, and be bold in becoming a congregation that is not content to be welcoming of others, but also to be intentionally inviting.

I invite all members and friends of CSPC to join in the planning process and its implementation by coming to the meeting on October 8th and the meetings that follow, and by bringing your ideas for outreach and inviting new people to worship and fellowship events. Christ is leading us to new adventures- let's all find that path and go together!

Grace and peace,
Kathy

Sunday School is up and Running



Sunday school classes began on September 13th. All classes start at 9 a.m. and are meeting upstairs in the Sunday school wing of the church. The Adult Sunday School class is in the Meeting Room and be led by Reverend Riley for the first few weeks. Pre K – 4th grade is trying out a new multi-age approach using the PC(USA) Growing in Grace curriculum. Our 5th – 8th graders will continue with the Connect curriculum that they have been using. We have some new faces helping with Sunday school this year and our returning leaders look forward to a fun year of learning and exploring what God wants to teach us and wants us to know.

More C.E. News

A new Bible Study will start on Wednesday evenings at 6:30, beginning September 23rd. Child care and/or lessons with activities will be provided. The first four-week study will be a series that includes: interpreting the Bible from a Reformed perspective, discerning God's word to us, and two sessions on sexuality and the Bible. This is the same series that will be offered in Sunday school beginning September 20, led by Rev. Riley.

Plans are under way for the Children's Christmas Pageant and practices will start mid-October and be held at the same time as the Bible Study for the adults. Please see Elizabeth Mozea if you are interested in helping with the pageant.

Happy Travelers Are At It Again



It's hard to keep a good group down! The Happy Travelers meet monthly at church but often take field trips around the area. In August, Betty Eichelberger shared her pictures from her trip to the Canadian Rockies and the group traveled to General Butler State Park in Carrollton for a fabulous lunch complete with peach and blackberry cobbler. The drive down was beautiful and there was even a side trip to Bon Worth! On September 3rd, some of the members attended the Kenton County Seniors' Picnic at the Fairgrounds. On September 24th, they are planning a trip to the Bromley Yacht Club for lunch. Betty Eichelberger organizes our senior group and is looking for more adventures for this group. Feel free to call her or come to one of the meetings on the fourth Thursday of each month.

Flames Youth Group “Soups” Up Their Mission

Thanks to our generous congregation and the hard work of our Flames, 30 families who visit Be Concerned will receive a hearty and healthy soup mix. Great job, Flames!

The Flames Youth Group is for children in 5th through 8th grade and is sponsored by Erin Murphy and Meaghan Mullin.



Paper Recycling

Do you miss bringing your old newspapers and magazines to church for recycling? The Kenton County Library on Kenton Land Road has several bins in their parking lot. Remember: Reuse, Repurpose, or Recycle.

Help Yourself

Start your day off right with a daily devotion. One that many of us use is called d365. Devotions are sent right to your personal email each morning. Join for free at www.d365.org

Children's Summer Worship



In Children's Worship this summer we studied different Heroes of the Bible, learning new things and having fun. We acted out the story of Queen Esther making mustaches to represent the evil Haman, while discussing how Esther stood up for what was right and how we can too! We also designed paper clothes to remember Dorcas clothing the poor, while talking about using our own special gifts to help others.

Church Picnic



Thanks to all who helped put together the church picnic at the Crescent Springs Community Park! This memorial park is a jewel in the Crescent Springs/Villa Hills area with lots of traditional areas for grilling, picnicking, fellowship, and three play sections for all age groups and physical considerations. The new 9-11 Memorial was just dedicated recently and it was spectacular and educational. And speaking of education, a big "Thank you" goes out to Tim Reed who taught us how to play Cornhole Baseball – sure to be the next craze in backyard games!



Extreme Church Makeover?

There's a new committee in town and they have been hard at work! The newly formed Design Committee (Meaghan Mullin, Walt Cottongim, Erin Murphy, Becky Burdick, and Donna Rigney) has made some significant changes to the look of our church. The old "Choir Room" has a new coat of paint and new carpet; it even has a new name – The Meeting Room! They cleaned out all of the cabinets and recycled or donated many out-of-date or unusable items. The church office and copy room were cleaned, given a fresh coat of paint and new carpet. The pastor's office has new carpeting as well!

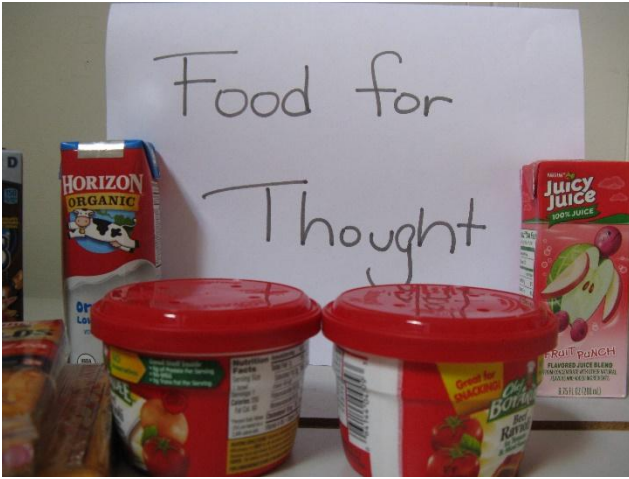
Moving forward, we will work on cleaning up the Gathering Room to make it more usable and welcoming to visitors and we'd also like to update the Narthex and the Sanctuary. Finally, we are looking forward to designating a new "History Room" where we will create displays and add items that celebrate CSPC's long history - a place to preserve and cherish our past while we continue to plan for our future.

Please see one of the committee members if you have questions or suggestions.

Meaghan Mullin

Chair of Design Committee.

Mission – Putting Our Faith into Action



We have a new mission project that provides nutritious food over the weekend for students through the River Ridge Resource Center. Currently we have signed up to provide 16 Food For Thought Bags each week with the hope of committing to more in the future. Samples and lists of the food items are in the Gathering Room. This will be an ongoing project, so add a few of the items to your weekly grocery list and bring them to church each Sunday. We also need large paper grocery bags for packing the food in. Get the whole family involved! Cash donations are also accepted (put in the collection plate and mark "Food for Thought").

Food was collected in August and September.....



And on September 6th we gathered to make up our first weekend backpacks!



Sam Martin – Music Director



Samuel Martin is a dynamic young artist who is thrilled to join the vibrant community at Crescent Springs Presbyterian Church. Born and raised in New York, he moved to Pennsylvania when he was eight years old and began music studies then. In addition to piano lessons, he played the trumpet and sang in school and community choral ensembles. He holds a Bachelor of Music degree from Ithaca College and will obtain a Master of Music degree from the College-Conservatory of Music in April 2016. Sam is passionate about music serving as a

vehicle for connecting people, places, ideas, and emotions; this philosophy is present in all of his work, and he looks forward to bringing it to CSPC and expanding our hymn repertoire. The Praise Band practices on Sundays at 8 a.m.

Session Highlights

The Clarion will contain a short summary of highlights from each month's session meeting. When minutes are approved, we will put a few copies on the table in the narthex and post a copy on the bulletin board outside the church office.

August 2015 highlights:

- Joint meeting was held with deacons
- Discussion was held concerning same-gender marriage in the PCUSA. It was agreed that Rev. Riley will offer a 4-week study in Sunday School and the Wednesday evening Bible Study on interpretation of Scripture in the Reformed tradition, discerning God's will, and the biblical passages that deal with sexual behavior
- The annual report from the deacons was received
- Rev. Riley's contract was renewed for ten months with an increase of \$2400 across the ten months
- Committee assignments were discussed for the coming year
- Dan Alexander was elected commissioner to the September presbytery meeting

Financial Update

	August Budget	August Actual	2015 YTD Budget	2015 YTD Actual
Income	\$12,854	\$12,645	\$105,332	\$108,135
Expense	\$12,506	\$11,278	\$103,238	\$95,974
Difference	\$348	\$1,367	\$2,094	\$12,161

Fantasy Football League Update

Well the CSPC Gridiron gang kicked off its second season by holding the draft on Labor Day morning. We have 14 teams participating this season with new additions like Charlie Perine, Ryan and Braden Alexander, Tom Ross and Scott Riley.

I, Scott Mozea, am once again serving as commissioner this season and I thought the hardest part was finding a time to hold the draft when 14 of us could get together. Little did I realize that would quickly be surpassed by the drubbing I took at the hands of Ryan, the supposed rookie who won week 1 by almost 70 points. That was easily my worst loss ever at 120 points for Ryan and just 51 for me.

Well, week 1 is in the books and I sit solely in last place, but it's only 1 week and the season is long. Stay tuned for our next update. Hopefully I won't be last place still.

Thanks,
Scott Mozea

Deacon's Corner

The deacons invite everyone to join in upcoming 2015 fellowship events:

September 20: Coffee Time after church; drinks and snacks will be provided.

October 25: Harvest Chili Cook-Off. It's your chance to win back the Chili Trophy from last year's champ, Tom Ross! Sign-up in the Narthex.

November 14: "Guess Who's Coming to Dinner" Sign-up in the Narthex.

December 5: Adult Christmas Dinner Party (location to be decided) Sign-up in the Narthex.

October Calendar

Wednesdays – 6:30 – Bible Study; 7:00 – P.N.C. Meeting

Saturdays – 8:00 a.m. – Men's Fellowship

October 1 – 7:30 Deacon's Meeting

October 2 – 12 - 2 Tabitha Guild

October 8 – 5:30 Worship Committee; 7:00 Mission Committee Meeting

7:30 Strategic Planning Meeting

October 16 – 12 - 2 Tabitha Guild

October 20 – 7:00 – Session Meeting

October 22 – 11:00 a.m. Happy Travelers

October 25 – Harvest Chili Cook Off