



January 2016

**Interim Pastor**  
Rev. Kathy Riley

**Session**

***Class of 2016***

Jeff Buckhout  
Jim Burdick  
Walt Cottongim

***Class of 2017***

Dan Alexander  
Meaghan Mullin  
Stacey Ross

***Class of 2018***

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  
Terry David

***Clarion Editor***

Terry David  
terrydavid05@gmail.com

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Crescent Springs  
Presbyterian Church



Greetings in this season of Christmas and Epiphany, when we glory in the light of God's grace and Christ's light shining on us! I write this as plans are being finalized for our last worship services of 2015 and the first service in 2016. We continue to pray for the Pastor Nominating Committee as they continue their work, and we look forward with patience to the time when a candidate for the position of pastor is announced.

As we begin the new year, we will start to plan for annual events like the women's retreat, our Lenten services and Vacation Bible School. The Planning for Growth and Evangelism committee has been meeting every three to four weeks, and as I noted in the last issue of the Clarion, this group and session have agreed to ask each group and committee to emphasize on reaching out to others in all that we do. As we enter into this work, the Adult Sunday school class will be working our way through the book, *"Why Nobody Wants to Go to Church Anymore."* This book, and a related congregational action plan, gives us ideas about why people don't and DO want to come to church. We'll also talk about ideas from some other sources shared by congregation members as we consider God's call to CSPC in a time when so many people stay home from church, yet we'd love to share God's love and our life at CSPC with them! We trust that this study series will help us in our efforts to expand our worship and ministries to those outside our congregation.

The Planning for Growth and Evangelism Group has identified the following areas for this outward-focused emphasis in the coming year: the website and new Facebook page, Food for Thought, participation in Cornerstone food ministries, a new brochure about CSPC to be mailed and handed out, a community chili supper, the women's retreat, Vacation Bible School, the Fourth of July Parade, Wild Wednesdays, the Ice Cream Social, Prepare Affair, with a breakfast to be held at CSPC that morning, the use of our space by outside groups- and \_\_\_\_\_. The blank is for you to fill in with your ideas of ways in which CSPC can reach others in ways that invite them to experience God's love with our church family. The next meeting is Thursday January 14 at 7:00 PM. Join us and bring your ideas!

Grace and peace,  
**Kathy**

## Sunday School News

There will be no Sunday School on December 27<sup>th</sup> or January 3<sup>rd</sup>. Classes will resume on January 10<sup>th</sup>.

## Tis the Season



On Sunday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>, we gathered after church for the Hanging of the Greens. Here are some pictures of the “before”, “during”, and “after” of the sanctuary as we readied for Advent. Several boxes of ornaments and the purple cloth used for the nativity set are missing. If you have seen them, please let Crystal Hardin know.

## Christmas Pageant

On December 20<sup>th</sup>, we had a soup supper and enjoyed the annual Children's Christmas Pageant. Elizabeth Mozea led our children in a production of the skit, “What, No Angels?”, which reminded us about the reason for celebrating Christmas. We also got a chance to hear some special music from some of our talented youth!



## Food for Thought

Here are the items needed each week that you can add to your grocery list and bring in on Sundays:

First Sundays of the month: 8 ounce servings of Chef Boyardee entrees, Peanut butter or cheese cracker sandwiches

Second Sundays: Individual cereal boxes and/or applesauce

Third Sundays: 100% juice boxes, cheese or peanut butter cracker sandwiches

Fourth Sundays: Shelf-stable milk, individual healthy snacks (trail mix, raisins, etc.)

## Tabitha Guild

We have been busy knitting and crocheting this fall for the Cold Shelter in Covington and the Oncology Offices of Northern Kentucky. After a pitch-in lunch in December, we “modelled” some of the hats we made for women who have lost their hair due to cancer treatments. We are a diverse group of women who meet twice a month



at church on Friday afternoons. Four of us are present members of CSPC, 3 are past members and 2 are friends and neighbors. Our talents range from novice to expert and we would love to share our experience with anyone who wants to learn to knit or crochet. Fair warning – the fellowshiping can get a little loud as we have a great time when we get together!

## Happy Travelers

The Happy Travelers Club met in December, to plan our lunches for 2016, and we sent Christmas cards to all our shut-ins. We had a great lunch at Belterra Park (the old River Downs). Here is a tentative schedule for next year (subject to that white stuff we get in winter). In January, we will try the new restaurant, Presidents Inn, in historic Burlington. February - The Green Derby, in Newport, March – Will's Grill in Indiana, April - we may go to one of our favorite places, the Tousey House in Burlington. I want to remind everyone that our meeting day is the 4th Thursday of every month except November and December and our new meeting time is 10:30 a.m. at church. Wishing everyone a very Merry Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

## Flames Youth Group



The Flames gathered in December to make flannel scarves for the Emergency Shelter of Northern Kentucky and to “wrap up” their leaders. Do you know a child in fifth through eighth grade who wants to join a great group of kids who have fun and are involved in community projects? Call Erin Murphy or Meaghan Mullin. The Flames meet twice a month on Sunday afternoons.



## CSPC Website and Facebook Pages

Shannon Murphy has been busy updating our website. We have gotten some positive feedback from non-members who have stopped by our site and found it to be informative. You can keep informed by checking out the online calendar which is part of our website. Why not bookmark [www.cspreby.com](http://www.cspreby.com) in your browser for faster access?!

We have a Group page AND a friend's page on Face Book! Search Crescent Springs Presbyterian Church and Add the Group page that has the PC (USA) logo and the Page called Members Past, Present and Future.



## Show me the Mission!

We were able to provide 16 families with Thanksgiving baskets this year and will feed even more during Christmas! The generosity of our congregation is epic! The Christmas baskets will include more than one meal for our families – we add food items for the family for the whole Christmas break. Eighty-two people will benefit from our food donations. This year, our Giving Tree supplied gifts for two families from the River Ridge Resource Center. Thanks go to Betty Eichelberger for organizing both of these opportunities for us.



## Let it Snow – Weather-Related Church Cancellations

Session is implementing a new system for notifying everyone about weather-related cancellations of worship services or other church events. We will notify local television stations and will call anyone who does not have a cell phone that receives texts or access to email. All others will be notified by email and by text if you wish. To be enrolled in our text alert system, just **text message the code @cspc1898 to the phone number 81010**. You'll receive a response letting you know you have been enrolled. We will test the system in the coming week or so to make sure it is working.

To receive an email alert, **send a blank email to the following email address:**

[cspc1898@mail.remind.com](mailto:cspc1898@mail.remind.com)

If you have questions about getting started in the system, please contact Stacey Ross. **If you need to receive a telephone call to alert you of any cancellations, please let Rev. Riley know.**

## Bound By Books

The following books discussions are on tap for 2016:

January 26: The Girl on the Train by Paula Hawkins

February 23 The Boys in the Boat by Daniel James Brown

March 22 The Nightingale by Kristin Hannah

All discussions are held at CSPC and start at 7:00 p.m. See Nancy Reed for more information.

## Financial Update

	<b>December Budget</b>	<b>December Actual</b>	<b>2015 YTD Budget</b>	<b>2015 YTD Actual</b>
Income	\$12,854	\$11,760	\$143,894	\$145,114
Expense	\$12,802	\$11,845	\$143,011	\$133,580
Difference	\$52	(\$85)	\$883	\$11,534

## January Calendar

Wednesdays – 7:00 – P.N.C. Meeting

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

January 3 No Sunday School; Assemble Food For Thought Bags after church

January 4 Worship Committee 5:30; C.E. Committee 6:30; Deacon's Meeting 7:30

January 7 Tabitha Guild 12 noon

January 10 Sunday School resumes 9 a.m.

January 14 Planning for Growth and Evangelism meeting

January 19 Session Meeting 7:00

January 22 Tabitha Guild 12 noon

January 26 Bound By Books 7:00

January 31 Congregational Meeting after church service to accept the 2016 budget