



# CrossRoads

Thus says the Lord: Stand at the crossroads and look, and ask for where the good way lies and walk in it...  
-Jeremiah 6:16

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News from Springfield Presbyterian Church - January 2012

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## A Message From Our New Pastor

<sup>14</sup> “You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. <sup>15</sup> Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. <sup>16</sup> In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

**Matthew 5:14-16** New International Version (NIV)

It is fitting that Springfield Presbyterian Church sit on the highest point in Sykesville. We are a “town built on a hill.” Lots of church folks want to pretend that we have no responsibility once we leave the sanctuary. The church (and God) is placed in a neat little cubbyhole reserved for Sunday mornings. But I want to invite you to take your Spiritual Life out of the cubbyhole and let it shine throughout your life, in all areas of your daily routine. It is one of the reasons that I bring in secular film clips and songs – to remind us that God is everywhere, that God speaks to us in places other than Sunday morning worship and through media other than hymns and sermons. I hope that the next time you see the movie “The Wizard of Oz” you will hear God’s call to recognize the talents hidden within each of us. I hope that the next time you hear the song “As Time Goes By” you will be reminded that God provides the fundamental hope of our existence. I hope the next time you watch Gene Kelly dancing in the rain that you will consider the new possibilities God offers to us every day.



For the February newsletter is **January 15th**. Please send your contributions to the church Office or by e-mail..

Life is a challenge. It always has been (today is no more challenging than life was 50 years ago) and always will be. There are far too many people in this world who think that life should be easy,

*(Continued on page 3)*

# Session News

## Session Notes:

1. Voted to call a congregational meeting for February 12 to approve updated bylaws, received the budget and annual committee reports.
2. Voted to call a congregational meeting for April 15 to elect officers and set Service of Ordination and Installation for June 3. This change in timing allows for more flexibility, both in planning officer training plus meeting with Session, to occur between election and installation.
3. Approved communion dates for 2012.
4. Christmas pageant, "What Gift Will You Bring?" on December 18.
5. Calendar planning meeting January 8 working through June.
6. New speakers have been installed in the sanctuary.
7. See Stewardship Report for current pledge totals.

## Congregational meeting:

The congregation met on December 4, 2011 voting to Call Rev. Richard H. Hill to be our Designated Pastor beginning January 1, 2012. With Pastor Rick's skills, both pastoral and musical, Springfield has an opportunity to be God's hands and feet in new ways. Already a framework is place to begin and next month you will read more about those plans.

With thanks to our Designated Pastor Nominating Committee: Chair James Manyette, Larry Grimsley, Leah Halvorson, Barb Nickell, and Fran Pobletts for reading through Pastor Information Forms, talking with candidates, conferring with each other, and drafting the Terms of Call.

### CrossRoads

Springfield Presbyterian Church, PC  
(USA)

7300 Spout Hill Road  
Sykesville, MD 21784  
(410) 795 - 6152

e-mail/website:  
office@springfield-church.org  
www.springfield-church.org

### **Sunday Morning Worship**

9:15 am Sunday School  
10::30 a.m. Worship

9:15 am Family Service  
(2nd & 4th Sundays only)

Rev. Rick Hill,  
Designated Pastor  
Sharon Pappas, Clerk of Session  
Sandy Newsome, Secretary  
Directors of Music: Linda Caviglia ,  
Jennifer Wise, and Sarah Lantz

CrossRoads is published monthly. We encourage all to contribute. Deadline is the third Sunday of the month. Please submit all articles to the church office or e-mail them to the church.

Mark Stinson, Editor

## Winter is Here!

As the winter season continues, if we feel the need to cancel Sunday school or the worship service, the message on the church answering machine will change to reflect that change, as will the web site; you may also receive an email.



(Continued from page 1)

someone else should take responsibility, someone else should do the hard work. Jesus reminds us that we are the ones who must take responsibility, we are the ones who must do the hard work. The hope that we have is that, when we tune ourselves in to God's dream for us that we will be successful – against all the odds! God consistently uses the small, the weak, the downtrodden, the least likely to do amazing things. It is important for us to remember that.



As we begin a new year and a new journey together I hope that we will always seek God's call. I hope that we will diligently and openly discuss where God is calling Springfield Presbyterian Church. I hope that we will discover untapped resources and then be courageous enough to use them. I hope that we will see ourselves as a "light of the world."

I believe very strongly that God has a great plan for this church. I am a part of that plan – and so are you! Let us act together in such a way that "they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."

Peace, *Rick*

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## Ugly Mug Doug

The Ugly Mug on Rt 32 just south of the Rt 26 intersection, is a work in progress non profit venture. It's goal is to be a place for people of all ages to hang out, drink coffee, and listen to live music

Doug (aka The Dougmeister, Doug McDougson, and several other nicknames given by the community) now has nearly 700 friends on Facebook and he's been tagged over 100 times on the street, in restaurants and at parties all over town. He's virtually a celebrity! This week he "climbed" back up on The Ugly Mug sign and continues to draw attention to the project. If you haven't friended him on Facebook yet, please go to [www.Facebook.com/UglyMugDoug](http://www.Facebook.com/UglyMugDoug) and friend him today! While you're on FB, like our [FB page](#).

Since I last wrote we've moved closer to opening The Ugly Mug, raising another \$10,000. We've still got a long way to go and the next \$5,000 is being matched dollar for dollar!



## Sunday Lectionary

- 1** Isaiah 61:10-62:3; *Psalm 148*;  
 Galatians 4:4-7; Luke 2:22-40
- 8** Genesis 1:1-5; *Psalm 29*;  
 Acts 19:1-7; Mark 1:4-11
- 15** 1 Samuel 3:1-10 (11-20);  
*Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18*;  
 1 Corinthians 6:12-20;  
 John 43-51
- 22** Jonah 3:1-5, 10;  
*Psalm 62:5-12*;  
 1 Corinthians 7:29-31  
 Mark 1:14-20
- 29** Deuteronomy 18:15-20;  
*Psalm 111*;  
 1 Corinthians 8:1-13  
 Mark 1:21-28

### Communion Servers:

## Special Events

Date	Day	Time	Activity
<b>1</b>	Sunday	12:00 pm	Band practice and Bible study (Newsome)
<b>8</b>	Sunday	12:00 pm	Planning Meeting
<b>15</b>	Sunday	12:00 pm	Band practice and Bible study
<b>29</b>	Sunday	6:00 pm	Youth Group Laser Tag

## Weekly at Springfield

Sunday	9:15 am	Sunday School
	10:30 am	Worship
	11:30 am	Fellowship
Wednesday	4:45 pm	SonShine Singers
	5:30 pm	Joyful Noise Choir
	6:30 pm	Presbyterones Bell Choir
	7:45 pm	Adult Choir

Assisting on Sundays	1	8	15	22	29
<b>Children's Activity</b>		Joy Barwick	Amy Izaguirre	Connie Robinson	Deb Sperling
<b>Fellowship</b> Barbara Cornell 549-9397	Linda Caviglia Susan Burns	Barbara Cornell Maxine Saylor			
<b>Lay Leader</b> Barbara Nickell 848-5710					
<b>Sunday Opener</b> Church Office: 795-6152	Bob Rogers	Lisa Rogers	Carl Anderson	Barbara Cornell	Jennifer Wise
<b>Ushers &amp; Greeters</b> Barbara Nickell 848-5710					



## Coming soon: IT'S LASER TAG!!

Need we say any more ?? January 29<sup>th</sup> 6-8 pm. Look for a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board. Parents are welcome to join us.



## Advent Craft Fair Thanks:

Once again, Joy Barwick organized our crafters on Dec. 4<sup>th</sup>, who participated in making the annual Advent Craft Fair a success. We had a record number of craft tables this year (8), with projects ranging from wreath ornaments to Bingo. Deb and Charles Sperling provided a delicious fellowship lunch, including everyone's favorite, cotton candy! Thanks to all who gave their time and talent. It was a special day!

## CHRISTMAS PAGEANT:

What gift will YOU bring? Our youth, directed by Charles Sperling, asked that of us during our annual Christmas Pageant on Dec. 18<sup>th</sup>. In telling the nativity story, the play asks us to ponder our spiritual gifts and what part of our lives we will dedicate to the Lord. The music shared by Joyful Noise, Sonshine Singers and Rick Hill was inspiring. Thank you to Deb and Charles Sperling, Pastor Rick and all who helped make the pageant a success. The talented cast and crew did a



### Sunday School Calendar for January

**January 1**– No Sunday school

**January 8** - Early Service  
9:15am with Sunday School  
Afterwards

**January 15** - Sunday School  
9:15am; Band SS 11:45am

**January 22** - Early Service  
featuring Red Sea Parting  
9:15am (no SS)

**January 29** – Sunday School  
9:15am

## Get Ready for Epiphany



Many Christians celebrate Epiphany each year on or about January 6<sup>th</sup>.

“Epiphany,” which means “showing forth,” celebrates the visit of the magi, or wise men, to the infant Jesus. These men, also known as kings, saw the star that led them to Bethlehem.

The fact that these wise men were Gentiles, not Jews, teaches us an important theological lesson: Their search for the

Savior shows us that Jesus came for all people.

# Our Music Ministry



The **Joyful Noise** and **SonShine Singers** will be participating in the annual Christmas pageant on the 18<sup>th</sup>... at you read this we will probably have already had this service, but I'm excited that the two choirs are doing more together this year. The SonShine singers will be playing the chimes with the piano as an accompaniment to the Joyful Noise piece. In turn, the Joyful Noise plan to play chimes with a joint piece the choirs will sing on Epiphany Sunday, January the 8<sup>th</sup>... we'll be working hard to make that happen!

The **Presbyterones** bell choir will be providing lots of music at our 8:00 pm Christmas Eve service. The prelude for that service will begin approximately 20 minutes before the service is to start with some piano, organ and bell music. I hope you'll plan to come early to sit and enjoy the music, setting the tone for a memorable Christmas Eve service here at Springfield.

The **Adult Choir** will also be participating in our Christmas Eve services. We will be adding two anthems during our Lessons and Carols service. *Come, Messiah, Come and* a jazzy piece called *African Angel Carol* which I think you will all appreciate.

At the early 5:00 service, a few members of the adult choir, along with some members of the SonShine Singers, Joyful Noise and Band will all join together to sing a lovely piece called *Christmas Canon Rock* a Trans-Siberian Orchestra piece based on Pachelbel's *Canon*. Jennifer and Sarah will accompany the group on Keyboard and Piano. Red Sea Parting will be participating in the early contemporary service that evening.

— Linda Caviglia

## Concert Series

What a wonderful afternoon we had on the 11<sup>th</sup> with Laura Stokes playing her gorgeous harp for us. The sanctuary looked lovely with all the Christmas greens decorating the windows and walls, and we had a good crowd (with many new people joining us this time. We enjoyed Laura's music and learned a lot about the harp as she explained how it worked.

Sorry if you missed this one, but maybe the next concert on February 12<sup>th</sup> will be a good time for you to come and join us. That concert will feature Elke Baker, a U. S. National Scottish Fiddle champion... more about her next month.



Mission /  
Outreach

## SERRV sale a success!

The mission committee sponsored our second SERRV sale on 4 and 11 December, and it was another great success. What a great deal – come to church and Christmas shop at the same time! Church members had many beautiful, functional, fun, and just plain interesting items to choose from. All the proceeds will go back to SERRV, which ensures that the money gets to the individual artisan. At the time of this writing, we don't have facts and figures for you, but we'll publish that information in the next newsletter. Thank you very much for your support!



## Mitten Tree and Neighbors in Need

The mitten tree was covered with tags, and then – poof! The tags were gone and the presents appeared, wrapped and ready, under the tree! How cool is that??? Thank you so much for your help in providing a brighter Christmas for a needy family in our local area. And a special thank you to Kari Anderson who organized this and who delivered all the items. The family was very appreciative!



**Mitten Tree**

## Mission AND OUTREACH Committee Needs YOUR Input!

Some of you may have heard my little story at church one Sunday – that my good friends on session reminded me that my committee isn't *just* the "Mission Committee" – it's the "Mission and Outreach Committee." It's always good to be reminded of ways to improve and branch out!

That said, the Mission and Outreach Committee is looking for your ideas as we plan for 2012. What ideas do you have for mission? What ideas do you have for outreach to the community? There are slips of paper in the bulletins requesting your input; they will be available through the 8<sup>th</sup> of January. Please share your ideas with us! You can place your slip in the bulletin or give it to one of the committee members. Thanks for a great 2011, and here's to a fantastic 2012!!



**Feed the Bin!**

— Jennifer Wise



## Consecration Sunday Report for 2012 Commitments

Exciting times are ahead for Springfield with a full-time pastor arriving the first of the year. Remember that God is the source of all that is good in our lives and giving is an act of worship to support the work of the church.

### The Campaign Results So Far:

At the end of October, we sent out Commitment letters to 62 family and friends of Springfield Church. We celebrated Consecration Sunday on November 20th. The chart below exhibits the 2012 pledge results as of December 11. This is a very good response, and we are very thankful to all that answered the call to work in fellowship with God to fulfill His mission at SPC. The total amount of income needed from members to cover expenses is \$133,000 as you can see we still have work to do!

	<i>No. of Pledges</i>	<i>Total Pledges</i>	<i>Operating Expenses</i>	<i>Capital Fund</i>
<b>2012</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>\$89,710</b>	<b>\$76,848</b>	<b>\$12,862</b>
<b>2011</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>\$82,145</b>	<b>\$67,728</b>	<b>\$14,417</b>

### Two-Year Statistical Comparison

We may hear from some more of our congregation who will help us meet and increase the pledges from last year's gifts, but most of the pledges are in now.

So far for 2012, 74% (28 out of 38 people) either increased their pledges or made their first pledge; 18% (7) remained the same; and 8% (3) decreased their giving. Letters of gratitude were mailed to all who pledged. We now have 12 families who use the Electronic Funds Transfer for ease in submitting their monthly gifts. This is an increase of 3 more families using this service.

#### Members Of The Session

##### Class of 2012

Tim Doyle  
Jennifer Wise  
Phil Salmon

##### Class of 2013

Carl Anderson  
Tim Oates

##### Class of 2014

Susan Burns  
  
Sharon Pappas,  
Clerk of Session

#### One Sentence Sermon

All that I am I owe to Jesus Christ, revealed to me in his divine Book.

— David Livingstone



## January

- 3 Ruth Ann Kegel
- 5 Carl Anderson
- 6 Alex Sperling
- 6 Emily Sperling
- 11 Jeannette Vasbinder
- 15 Elizabeth Meiorowitz
- 16 Tyler Stinson
- 18 Derian Anderson
- 20 Henry Halvorson
- 22 Sally Roby
- 23 Natalie Halvorson
- 24 Mark Stinson



## January

- 6 Tim & Beth Oates
- 23 Carl & Kari Anderson
- 26 Jack & Sharon Pappas



**Pet Ministry:** If you or someone you know has a sick pet, or a pet that passed away, please call Ann Lawson at 410-795-9169 or email her at [slicklawson@comcast.net](mailto:slicklawson@comcast.net) for prayers and support.

# Our Joys and Concerns

## OUR THOUGHTS & PRAYERS

- ✠ Dianne Griffith, (Karen Stinson' sister), serious medical issues
- ✠ Jimmy Reed, (Georgia Hodges' nephew), health concerns
- ✠ Nancy LePage, health concerns
- ✠ Kelsey Robinson, health concerns
- ✠ Brenda Fogarty, Jennifer Wise's friend, recent cancer
- ✠ Juliana Carver, 10 year old friend of Julie Ballard, second bout of Cancer
- ✠ James Nickell, Sr., Barbara Nickell's father-in-law, health issues
- ✠ Jim Williams, Barbara Nickell's brother-in-law, pancreatic cancer
- ✠ Sara Noyes, health concerns
- ✠ Nettie Owens, Belle/Don Vasbinder's daughter, health concerns
- ✠ Keith Maynard, health concerns
- ✠ Lisa Rogers' mother, health concerns
- ✠ Jack Becker, Julie Ballard's brother, recovering from heart surgery
- ✠ Carolyn Freas, recovering from knee surgery
- ✠ Oscar Streaker, Ruth Ann Kegel's father, at Transitions for rehab
- ✠ Pam & Charlie Zappardino, friends of Jessica Lane, as their mother, Sonja Zappardino, goes through the Hospice process
- ✠ Paul Segreen, struggling to recover from a kidney transplant
- ✠ Rachel Nichols, young friend of the Mazers, lymphoma
- ✠ Mary Pobletts, Northwest hospital

## OUR JOYS & THANKSGIVINGS

- ◇ Jack Becker's successful heart surgery
- ◇ Warm shelter and beds
- ◇ Paul Segreen, home from his kidney transplant

## SPECIAL THANKS

- ◇ John Bunting for the beautiful new bulletin board at the bottom of the stairs in the fellowship room.
- ◇ Tony Caviglia for installing new speakers in the sanctuary.
- ◇ Children, teachers, parents for their work on the pageant.
- ◇ Fellowship team for providing nourishment for all our special events (congregational meetings, 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary, welcomes and farewells.
- ◇ Advent Craft Fair participants and the youth for hot dogs and cotton candy
- ◇ Concert committee and their reception team

# CrossRoads

## News from Springfield Church

January 2012



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### **OUR MISSION**

*Our mission is to proclaim God's word as written in the Bible.*

*We do this through Worship, Sacraments, Study and Service.*

*We rejoice in forgiveness and a new beginning through our faith in Jesus Christ.*

*We support in prayer and service our congregation, community, nation and world.*

*We treasure the warmth of our church family, their time and talents, the youth and our history.*

*We eagerly extend our hand of friendship.*

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