

The Sampler

Co-Editors

Barb Stein

rstein01@atlanticbb.net

Britt Dolly

abrittd@gmail.com



From the
PASTOR

The Gift of Love

Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not rely on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and God will make straight your paths.

Proverbs 3:5-6

Every 2015 Pastor's Page has begun with the Proverbs 3:5-6 scripture. Even though it is from the Old Testament and as a follower of Jesus Christ I try to live what he modeled, the words from Proverbs speak strongly to keep God's love as my personal touchpoint.

This time of year there is another scripture that resounds in my heart. *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. From his fullness, we have all received grace upon grace.*

John 1:1-5, 10-16

This is the season for celebrating the greatest gift of love ever given: God himself in human form as Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior. Of course, at the **time of Jesus' birth, no one knew he would grow up and die to redeem us from our sins** and then rise to give new life to all who believe in him. Only Mary, Elizabeth, Joseph, the shepherds, and the wise men had any idea of the significance of the birth event. Even the innkeeper was in the dark. I wonder if he ever realized what a miracle occurred in his stable.

As you go about all your activities during the holiday season and coming year, remember the innkeeper and ask if you are providing the setting or the materials or the space for a miracle to occur. Remember that not all miracles have such **overwhelming significance, but all are still part of God's continuing love, creation and great plan.**

Be part of a miracle every day by delivering a gift of love to all you meet.

Pastor Barb



DECEMBER
2015

Inside this issue:

Session News	2
Christmas Food Boxes	2
Prayer concerns	2
Fall Fling	3
Community Fellowship	3
Recipe of the Month	4

NEWS FROM THE SESSION

Session met on November 11, 2015, with the following report.

- ◆ Annual Congregational Meeting will be December 6, 2015, following the Church service.
- ◆ The 2016 Proposed Budget will be given to the Congregation at the Annual Congregational meeting.
- ◆ The recommendation of the Pastor Care Committee for the Pastor's increase in salary for 2016 will be presented at the Annual Congregational meeting for approval by the Congregation.
- ◆ Session approved the collections from "4 cents a meal" for October, November and December go to the Christmas Food Box Fund.
- ◆ Session tabled the Shared Mission Support recommendation until the December meeting.
- ◆ Session approved the Missionary Pledge of \$1000.00 from the Commitment and Witness budget.
- ◆ Session approved the portion of the Peacemaking Offering that remains with our Church go to the local Backpack program.
- ◆ Trust fund members Dr. Garry Long and Don Cookman participated in a discussion of the church finances.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Income — \$14,299.94 Expenses — \$11,300.50 Net Income — \$2,999.44

Dedication of the (24) Samaritan's Purse, Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes took place on Sunday, November 15th. Thanks to everyone who took part with our mission project: those who did a box (or two), those who gave money for the shipping fees and for those who prayed for the children that will receive the boxes and hear the good news of Jesus Christ.



Please don't forget to mark **December 12th** on your calendars as we distribute food for the **Hampshire County Christmas Food Box Program (HCCFBP)**. If you would like to help fill the boxes please be at the Army Reserve Armory at 8:00 a.m.

The Adult Choir will be singing "**Let There Be Christmas**", a cantata written by Joseph M. Martin, during the December 20th Sunday morning service. Leading up to Christmas there will be songs of Faith, Hope, Peace, Love, Joy, Wonder, Grace....and finally, CHRISTMAS.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Our Members: Judy Buckbee, Diane Crane, Anne Hill, Sally Kuykendall, John and Margritt Mason, Beulah Mayhew, John and Barbara Pancake, Joe Pancake, Ward Voit

Missionary Support: Mark Hare in Haiti and Krista Van Nostran in El Salvador.

Our Congregation extends its deepest Christian sympathy to the families and friends of Fay Carroll's boyfriend Dale, Eileen Eddis, Phillip Henry Farrell, Dorothy Guinier and Mary Lou Mezzatesta.

Also: Herb and Sandee Adrian, Mary Margaret Barbe, John Bowers, Dona Brown, Cheryl Buck, Boyd Corbin, Elsa Culler, Ashley Destel, John Duncan, Sr., Karina Gray, Harriett Griffith, Vicki and Carl Haines, Mary Alice Boner Hannah, Shirley Heavner, Tilden Hunt, Michael Jenkins, Junior Kuykendall, Alma Lear, Laura LeRoy, Sue Martin, Dee Orndorff, Lexi Orndorff, Maria Reppert, Rusty Rice, Landon and Nolan Rinker, Steven Rogers, Tom Stump, Michael Terry, Joshua Wagner, Grant Walls, Emily Warner, Linda Willows, Addie Wood, Charlotte Wood

Please provide the church office with updates when available to keep this list as current as possible.

FALL FLING EVENT

On Sunday evening, November 1, 2015, our Youth from RPC and the Youth from FUMC combined to sponsor our annual Fall Fling event/costume party with fun and games, crafts and creativity and assorted snacks and pizza. A big thank you goes to the Youth leaders David and Gayle Allen and Ted and Noni Heckert who helped organize this event and kept things moving smoothly. We had over 30 in attendance including little ones, youth and adults. Everyone from ages five to eighty-five had a great time.



Community Fellowship

The long-awaited trip to Sight and Sound theater on November 7 was a great success. Forty-six people filled the bus and enjoyed each other's company on the long drive. The presentation of **"The Miracle of Christmas"** thrilled and moved us. During intermission, we had time to let the story sink into our hearts: Mary was devoted to God, quick to praise Him, and had great courage in the face of misunderstanding. During the second half, Jesus was born, angels danced above, and camels appeared! The music and acting were first-rate. We shared a delicious meal after the show at Bird In Hand restaurant. The trip also turned out to be a great outreach event for our church in the community, because about half of the participants were not from our congregation. We enjoyed meeting and re-connecting with many friends from Hampshire County. Thank you for spreading the word and for supporting the Sunday School fund, which helped to defray the cost of the trip.



Recipe of the Month
BLT Dip

1 cup sour cream 1 cup mayonnaise 1 cup shredded cheddar 1 good sized tomato seeded and chopped
Bacon Bits to taste (3-4 Tablespoons)

Yield about 3 cups

Mix sour cream and mayonnaise until smooth. Add cheddar and bacon bits. Mix. Add chopped tomato last. Serve on chopped lettuce or lettuce cup if desired. It is also good without lettuce.

This is good with pretzel bites, potato chips, or vegetables.
Enjoy. Linda Shriver

It's not too early to think of New Year's Resolutions.
Won't you consider putting "**Join the Adult Choir in January 2016**" on your list?
God will love you and we will, too.

Romney Presbyterian Church
100 West Rosemary Lane
Romney, WV 26757

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. POSTAGE PAID-Permit #12
Romney, WV 26757

The Sampler
December 2015

Return Service Requested

Back issues of the Sampler are available on our Website www.romneypresbyterianchurch.org.
Church Office Phone—304-822-5083 **Email**-office@romneypresbyterianchurch.org