

Poinsettias for Christmas

In Mexico they call the plant Noche Buena, which mean Christmas Eve. Continue the southwest tradition this Christmas Eve at Crosswinds. You can bring a plant any Sunday, or order them for Christmas Eve at the church for a donation of \$10 to Crosswinds Flower Fund.



Be sure to pick an Angel from our Christmas Tree in the Fellowship area.

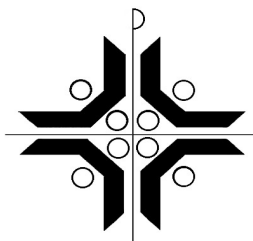
This year Crosswinds is again participating in the Angel Tree Program at Christmas. You can make Christmas a little more special for some kids in need! These families are from our immediate community. Won't you please pick up a gift for one of these kids?



Extravagant Generosity

If you have not returned your

Estimated Giving Card for next years, please do so. Not only is making a pledge a spiritual discipline, it really helps the Session plan for the coming year.



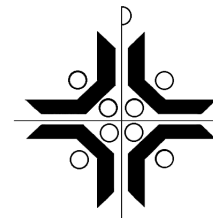
Crosswinds

A Congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA)

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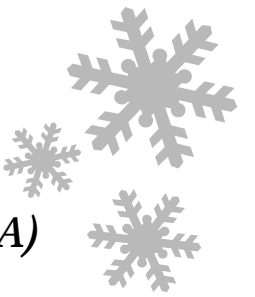
crosswindspc.com

Join us on the Journey!



Crosswinds

A Congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA)



December Newsletter

Join us on the Journey!

2011

Christmas Eve at Crosswinds

Crosswinds Candlelight Service 7:00 p.m.

The Philharmonicas are already preparing for Christmas Eve, and they will be joined by the choir and the Christmas Bells. The service will be filled with great music, including traditional carols and special arrangements, along with scripture, prayer and concluding with the lighting of the candles.



Imago Dei Service 4:00 p.m.

Crosswinds will be joining the new church development, Imago Dei at 4:00 for a very contemporary service. Imago Dei is currently using the church on Sunday evenings as they begin the process of starting a new church in the most northern parts of Phoenix. Join them for a new and unique worship experience, then return at 7 for Crosswinds Candlelight service.

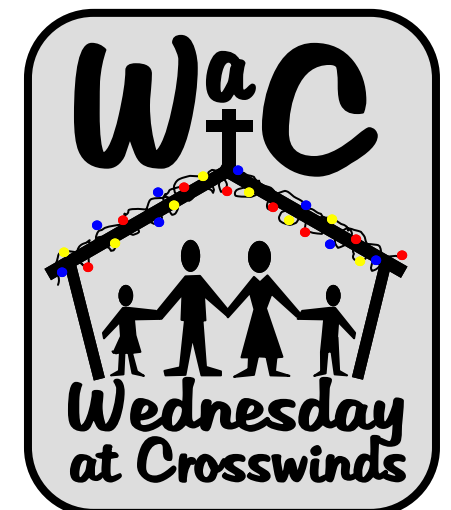
Children's Worship Activity

During Advent the children are invited to join Kate Wilmoth following the Children's Message for a fun learning experience. Children are always welcome to stay in worship, but those who would like may go to the activity. We do ask that once children leave worship, they are to stay at the activity until it is finished.

Wednesday's at Crosswinds During Advent

Meal at 6, Study at 6:30 finished by 7:30

Most of us have heard the Christmas stories so many times, that we forget the deep spiritual message given to us through the nativity story. At WaC during the Christmas season, we will dig deeper into the scripture lessons that lead us to the birth of Jesus. After the lesson, the children and adults will join together as Daniel will lead us in some of our favorite Christmas



Deacons Christmas Party

Sun, Dec. 4 at 4:00 p.m.

Both current and new deacons and their families are invited to the home of Cathy Brock. Bring a dessert or appetizer and an ornament to exchange.



Caroling & Finger Food

Potluck
December 18
Caroling at
4pm &
Dinner at
6pm



Join Crosswind's fine musicians as we travel through the neighborhood singing carols. You don't even have to walk! Most of us hop on the trailer. So even if you are not a good singer, come join the ride.

If you don't carol with us, please bring a dish and come for the Finger Food Pot Luck at 6:00.

On-Line
Volunteer
Sign-up



We've started using Sign-up Genius. It's an on-line electronic sign-up system. Its used to schedule our Sunday volunteer positions: **Worship Leader, Ushers, and those who will provide flowers for Worship and Refreshments for Fellowship Time.** It's easy to use and you can sign in as a guest without registering. This will help stream line our volunteer process. But don't worry, we'll still have the paper

Don't Throw Out Those Old Calendars and Christmas Cards



As you purchase your calendars for the new year, please bring us your old ones. Same goes for Christmas cards. They are used at assisted living centers and nursing homes by the residents. Please place them in the designated basket in the Fellowship Area.

Christmas Bells

Don't just "Hear the Bells" at Christmas, but come make them play!

Under the leadership of Cheryl Burton, Crosswinds will have a special Bell Choir for Christmas. All ages are invited to join, and musical talent isn't a necessity. If you can count to 4, you can play the bells. The Bells will rehearse after worship on December 4, 11 & 18th.



Christmas Joy Offering



Christmas Joy is a special offering collected by churches every year during Advent. Fifty percent of the receipts to the Christmas Joy Offering are distributed to the Board of Pensions for assistance programs that provide support to retired and active church workers and their spouses and families. The other fifty percent supports Presbyterian-related racial ethnic education institutes.



Lend-A-Hand will have their Christmas party on Dec 13 at the home of Joyce West. 11540 W.

King Snake Ct, Surprise, AZ 85374. they will gather at 11am and enjoy a pot luck luncheon at noon.

Please RSVP Karen Hopper at 602-942-2411 to let her know what dish you will be bringing.



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

China Kockler

Dori Kockler

Elizabeth Nelson

James Gates

Jaryn Leming

Jennie Hofkamp

Jeremy Campbell

Joyce Johnson

Karen Hopper

Kate Wilmoth

Kathryn Yoder

Lisa Dalton

Stone Kockler

Thomas Hartwell

How Did We Do on Turkey Day?

Last year we helped 30 families have a more thankful day. Thanks to the generous and loving people of Crosswinds, we topped it by donating 31 Turkeys to Operation Care for Thanksgiving.



We will continue with our holiday meal theme through December. We're asking you to bring in canned vegetables, stuffing mix, instant potatoes, gravy mix, canned hams, etc.

Message from Michael

Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect. Romans 12:2.

This Advent we are following the Magi to Christmas. We know very little about the Magi. They may have traveled for as much as two years to find the Christ Child. Our journey is just four weeks. For some it is the longest four weeks of the year, and for others it is the shortest. Either way, Christmas is a journey. For Christians, the

four weeks before Christmas is a time to check our directions and see if we are on the right path. We need to ask ourselves, "Are we being transformed by the spirit or transformed by the world?" Christmas is a wonderful time of the year, but it is easy to let the trimmings of the season detour us from deepening our relationship with Christ. Amidst all the holiday activities don't lose your focus. The Magi didn't know exactly where they were going, but they knew the star was leading them to a special child. As the Magi followed the star to the Christ Child, may your advent journey rekindle the joy of knowing Christ.

Christmas' Messages during Advent.

- November 27 What Star Are You Following this Christmas?
- December 4 Are you following Jesus or Santa Clause?
- December 11 Are you looking in the right places?
- December 18 Are you moving too fast?
- Christmas Eve Are we there yet?

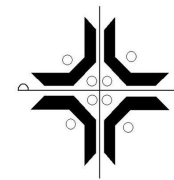
And don't forget Christmas Day! Crosswinds will celebrate the birth of Christ at our usual 10:30 worship time.



**The Hartwell's
Annual Christmas Open House**
Sunday, December 12, 3-7 p.m. at the Hartwell's
1406 E Topeka Drive

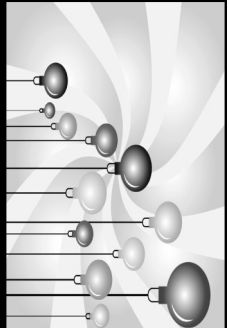
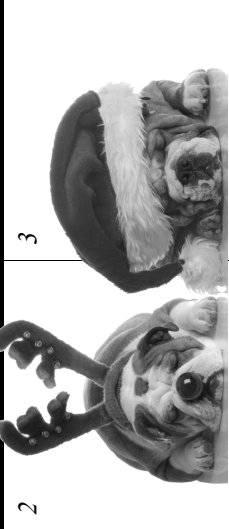

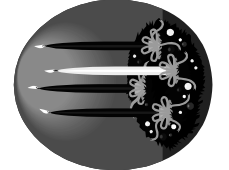
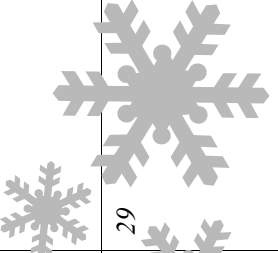

We will have plenty of food and drinks, but if you would like to bring something to share, that is OK too.

Come and stay a while,
or just drop by and say hi. Just Come!



December 2011

Crosswinds Presbyterian Church

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 4 2nd SUNDAY OF AVENT COMMUNION 9am Choir 10:30am Worship Service 11:30 Bell Choir practice 4pm Deacon Party	5	6 7am Morning Prayer Breakfast	7 10am Bible Study 5pm Philharmonicas 6pm WaC	8	9 10	 3 10
11 3rd SUNDAY OF AVENT 9am Choir 10:30am Worship Service 11:30am Bell Choir practice 3-7 Christmas Open House At Michael & Christi's	12	13 7am Morning Prayer Breakfast 11am Lend-A-Hand Christmas Party	14 10am Bible Study 5pm Philharmonicas 6pm WaC 7:45 Committee	15	16 17 7:30pm Desert Foothills Holiday Concert 	
18 4th SUNDAY OF AVENT 2 Cents a Meal Offering 9am Choir 10:30am Worship Service 11:30am Bell Choir practice 4pm Christmas Caroling 6pm Finger Food Pot Luck	19 	20 7am Morning Prayer Breakfast 7pm Cub Scouts	21	22 	23 24 4pm Imago Dei Service 7pm Crosswinds Candlelight Service	31
25 10:30am Worship Service 	26	27	28	29	30	