



Graystone Good News

JANUARY

2012

So, what about the Church?

This is a foundational question that requires foundational answers, especially in this era of church decline and divisiveness. It has very personal and powerful implications as well as global and eternal implications. Therefore we will take a foundational; as well as contemporary, look at the Church in a brief series on the bride of Christ, the Church this month.

*You won't want to miss this sermon series.
It will shape where we are going in 2012.*

In this age of church decline and division; especially in the mainline denominations, there is a plethora of reasons and excuses given for the loss of members and our inability to get the ship out of the doldrums and sailing in the wind of the Holy Spirit. Needless to say, the reasons, excuses, and remedies are often as confusing and conflict-producing as the issues that divide us.

So where do we turn to find light in the midst of this ecclesiastical darkness and mayhem? Well, we can begin with a "bottom up" approach by looking at the psycho-social-cultural-economic-demographic-historical-legal-polity perspectives; or we can humbly listen and try a "top down" approach by seeking the mind and will of the Head of the Church, Jesus Christ. While the former has its merit and place, I prefer the latter. It has the power of an eternal perspective on these earthly, temporal deliberations.

Specifically, we will look at Jesus' encounter with the Samaritan woman in John 4 for insight. (See page 3 for the outline) This encounter will serve as a springboard into the purpose, relevance, and power of the church which has been birthed and nurtured "in Spirit and in truth" for the glory of God to all generations. By walking with the *Living Word* and examining the *written word* together, we can build a deeper and significant understanding of what the church is called to be and do. We will reconnect with our roots so that we might once again find our wings to soar upon the wind of the Spirit.

Hey, It could happen!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Youth

WINTER JAM
2012
TOUR SPECTACULAR

January 27

Annual Meeting
Sunday, January 29

5:00 Congregational Dinner
6:00 Congregational Meeting

PEP LUNCHEON
JANUARY 18
12:00 NOON
GATHERING PLACE

640 Church Street, Indiana, Pennsylvania
Phone: 724-349-5556 Fax: 724-349-4557
www.graystonepc.org



From the Pastor's Heart

Dear Graystone Family and Friends,

Grace to you and peace in 2012!

The year is well underway with schedules filling up and resolutions already made and broken. At our house, we are basking in the birth of David Hurley Benson – yes a boy! – born December 30 at 9:08 pm at 6 lbs 10 oz and 19 inches long. He is by far the cutest baby boy in the Hurley family!

So what does 2012 hold for Graystone? I am not sure of all that God has sovereignly planned for us but here are a few things that are on our agenda as a session and as a congregation:

- ◆ Growing in our understanding, experience, and presentation of worship. Our session will be reviewing the elements, purpose, and; yes, even the times of our worship services. While we are not starting with a blank slate, we are seeking God's wisdom and insight into how we can go deeper in our worship and most effectively reach the unchurched community around us.
- ◆ Begin and hopefully complete a search for a new Associate Pastor. Please be in prayer for God's choice of the next person to join the Pastoral staff at Graystone. This will be critical to the future of our life together. The Personnel Team is also assessing other staffing possibilities.
- ◆ Outreach to the community will be a high priority this year. The Outreach Team has been praying and seeking God's wisdom on creative ways to reach our community with the gospel. Part of our plan is to equip you, the congregation, with ways to personally share the good news of Jesus in clear, intellectually honest and winsome ways.
- ◆ Increased communication via e-mail and better use of our website. There will be a lot going on in our life together this year and I am committed to keeping you informed as we make our way through the twists and turns of 2012. We will be looking at a full range of options and media presence for you and for visitors.
- ◆ We still face challenges and controversial, divisive decisions in our Denomination. Our Denominational Issues Task Force, while not having met in the latter part of 2012, will continue to do due diligence in exploring options for Graystone as we seek to be faithful to our call as followers of Jesus Christ. This is especially critical as General Assembly meets in Pittsburgh this summer which means more controversial issues will come our way. With such anticipation in mind we will keep you informed as we prepare to face the future with a clear plan. I will be in the thick of the action as an elected Commissioner from our Presbytery so I will have a voice and a vote in the debates and balloting. (See my article on the "Current State of Graystone in the PC(USA)" for more details.)

My hope for 2012 is that we would go deeper in our worship and discipleship, and wider in outreach to those within our reach. I also pray for clear direction for our congregation within the PC(USA).

May God be honored in all that we do.

Rejoicing in Hope,

A Note from our Interim Associate Pastor...

AD 2012 – another year to enjoy the Lord and bring Him glory. Another opportunity to grow in His grace and wait upon Him. Will we do it as well as we should? Probably not, but the Lord always seems to give us “another day” to love Him more fully.

There are three Graystone opportunities I am working on that I ask you to keep before the Lord in prayer so that He would be very visible in each: One is the “Graystone’s Got Talent” event on Feb 4th. This all church, all kinds of talent, super fun evening is music and more. Share your talent! Sign up to be part of this great evening!

The series that begins Sunday, January 8th is a six-week elective Sunday School Class under the theme “Doing the Right Thing.” At a time when ethical standards seem to be in short supply, this class will feature a video panel and a live panel willing to take on this subject. It will be held in the Mack Chapel at 9:45 each Sunday morning. Local panelists include Tom Kauffman, Steve Wolfe, Don White, Bernie Parker and Tim Lipniskis. Plan to join us!

The third event is a “Great Date Night” to be held on March 3 – more on this post-Valentine’s Day couples event with Mark Cable later, but mark your calendars now.

Sermon Schedule January 2012

So, what about the Church?

*Lessons from Jesus' encounter with the woman at the well.
John 4:1-42*

In this four week series some of the critical questions we will address will include: What is our purpose? Is the Church outdated? Are we to be relevant or reverent? Or both? Where are we, and where are we going?

The purpose of the Church is expressed in our:

- Worship**..... January 8
- Work**.....January 15
- Witness**.....January 22

We will also take a snapshot of how we are doing as we answer the question

**Where are we,
and where are we going?.....January 29**

You will not want to miss this series. It will set the

Graystone and the Current State of the PC(USA)

Here at Graystone we are somewhat insulated from the larger Church and what is going on around the country; so, here is some information to give you context to the ongoing turmoil in the PC(USA). I will present the following facts without comment or analysis in order to give you perspective on the state of the PC(USA).

The passage of the New Form of Government; formerly known as nFOG now known as the *Form of Government* in the Book of Order, which is part of our Constitution and particularly the passage of amendment 10-A, which changed our ordination standards has created a crisis of conscience for many people and congregations. The opposition has been clearly and passionately stated in the long, drawn-out, decades of debates. It is not a surprise that these constitutional changes are seen as a seismic shift in our denomination. For many it is a game changer.

As a result some congregations have chosen to transfer to other Reformed Denominations such as the Evangelical Presbyterian Church (EPC). One church in our Presbytery; Shiloh in St Mary's, has chosen this route. Memorial Park in the Pittsburgh Presbytery (where our friend Dean Weaver is Pastor) has joined the EPC. At least five congregations have left the PC(USA) in the Donegal Presbytery and others are considering it. I cite these only as a sample. Congregations around the country are taking similar action.

Another response among some Presbyterians is the emergence of a new entity called *The Fellowship of Presbyterians* formed by a group of seven Pastors. In August they hosted convocation in Minneapolis that was attended by over 1900 Presbyterians. Elder George Caroff and I attended. Two principles seemed to guide those in attendance 1. Fighting each other in the PC(USA) is wearying and damaging to our witness to Christ in the world, therefore, 2. They seek a creative, positive alternative. To that end the *Fellowship* is having a "covenanting convention" in Orlando FL Jan 18-20 to create a New Reformed Body (NRB). This New Reformed Body will have its own constitution, identify the essential tenets of the Reformed faith and have ordaining authority. In effect it will be a new denomination. For those so desiring to affiliate with the NRB there are three options as follows:

- ◆ Affiliate with other like-minded individuals and congregations by joining The Fellowship of Presbyterians while remaining in your current presbytery or continuing to explore some form of differentiation within the PC(USA).
- ◆ Differentiate more completely under the umbrella of The Fellowship by pursuing a union relationship (congregation or presbytery) with both the PC(USA) and the new Reformed body.
- ◆ Separate from the PC(USA) by joining the new Reformed body, while maintaining important relationships and creating new ministry partnerships under the umbrella of The Fellowship of Presbyterians.

Rev. Milligan and I, along with other pastors and elders from our Presbytery will join over 1900 Presbyterians as this new Reformed Body is established. Wayne Yost our General Presbyter is also going. We go with no predetermined plan of action but feel it is part of our responsibility to do due diligence in exploring viable, reasonable options that best suit Graystone and to answer questions that many have. We will report back when we return.

While our own *Task Force for Denominational Issues* has not met in the latter part of 2011, significant work has been done in our Presbytery. Since April a group of concerned Pastors and elders from our Presbytery have been meeting for prayer, support, planning, and thinking strategically about how to be a positive influence in the Presbytery. In addition the Presbytery will be voting on a "Reconciliation and Gracious Separation Policy." If passed this policy puts in place a mechanism for congregational discernment, discussions with Presbytery and if it is concluded that separation from the PC(USA) is God's will then it allows congregations to leave with their building and assets. However, in order to maintain ministry in the Presbytery a dismissal fee of 10% of the previous three years' income would be given in order to support the ongoing mission and ministry of the Presbytery. Please pray that this would pass.

We live in a time of transition in our culture and in the Church. We are being stretched in places we would rather ignore, hoping that someone else would take care of them or they would just go away. However, we can't avoid the reality around us. In the weeks and months ahead my hope is that we would find grace to discuss the issues before us with integrity, honesty and respect for one another. There will be scheduled opportunities for such discussion for those who seek to participate in the future.

Children's Ministry

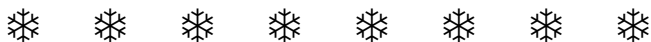
Mark Your Calendars For



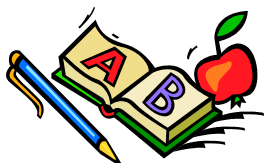
Junior Camp: Entering Kindergarten thru entering 2nd grade
 Day Camp: Entering 3rd grade thru entering 8th grade

July 2-July 13

Camp Applications will be mailed on Wednesday, February 1st. Camp applications will not be handed out in the church office until Monday, February 6th. Remember camp fills up quickly, so do not hesitate in returning your completed application and enrollment fee. If you know someone that would like to be included in our mailing, please call the church office with their name and address.



Half Day Hangout



Grades K-6
Friday, February 17
12:00-3:30

It's our last 1/2 Day Hangout of the school year and we invite you to join us. Our afternoon will include a Bible Story, crafts, games and fellowship. We hope you will be a part of the fun and invite another friend to come along.

Don't forget that there will be free pizza for lunch.

Registration is required; please call the church office at (724-349-5556).



Volunteers needed: What an opportunity to extend your "Arms of Love" to the families in our community. Won't you consider being a part of this day of fun? If you are interested in volunteering please call Linda Blakely at 724-349-6766 or Shari Costello at 724-349-5556 by February 10th. Thank you for your continued support of this important ministry.



January 27 - Winter Jam 2012

It's that time again and you can see 10 bands for only \$10 as well as hear from a great speaker and a Christian illusionist. Bands this year are Skillet, Sanctus Real, Newsong, Peter Furler (former front man for Newsboys), Kari Jobe, Building 429, Group 1 Crew, and even more! Don't miss this awesome concert!

February 5 - Super Bowl Party 2012

I'm hoping the Steelers can get a rematch against GB this year, but no matter who's playing, we'll have our annual Super Bowl Party in the Stone Room, from 6pm to game end.



February 10-12

Teen Quest Snow Camp 2012

It's time for our winter retreat to the Teen Quest Ranch for Snow Camp! This awesome time on one of the highest points in PA will include paintball, horse back riding, snow tubing, food, team challenges, a great speaker and powerful worship with other youth groups from all around the region. Registration forms are available and the total cost of the trip is \$100, but don't let money stop you from going! Scholarships are available as well as fundraisers. This was a very powerful time for the group that went last year, so don't let this experience pass you by. If you have any questions call Tim at the church or text me!



We ended our series on Judges later than expected and Christmas has come and gone, but we're moving on to new things in our next series, *Backwards*, dealing with how we should view our money and possessions

Believe It or Not - World Religions has been a fascinating look into what other religions believe and how it compares with Christianity. So far we've looked at Hinduism, Buddhism, Islam, and Mormons, but we're not done yet! I'm looking forward to sharing the rest of this lesson series with you all. Continue to pray that God's truth can shine through in this series.



Stone Small Groups

Sunday Evenings @ 6:30

Come out Sunday evenings for small group bible studies for Jr/Sr High Guys/Girls. Find a place for you!



GRAYSTONE'S CAMPUS CONNECTION

**NEW YEAR = NEW OPPORTUNITIES TO
PARTICIPATE! GROW! REACH OUT!**

“For we are God’s own handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.” (Ephesians 2:10)

Leadership ADVANCE

Liberti students who believe God is calling them to serve others by leading in the student group will gather in State College for an experience that will advance them in that call.

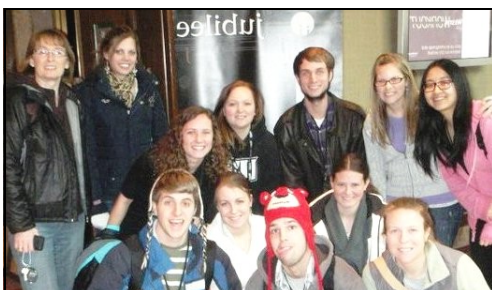
LA will explore strengths and the unique personalities God has given each student through inspirational and practical speakers, group challenges, reflection time, worship, and individual coaching.

Students will return with a greater understanding of Biblical leadership, and how God has designed them to live out that servant role in ways that bring Him glory and lead others into His Kingdom.

Register for JUBILEE

February 17-19, 2000+ people from different cultural backgrounds and academic majors/professions will gather at the Westin Convention Center in Pittsburgh for the CCO annual JUBILEE Conference! Come see and hear and talk with the best practitioners across a diversity of fields (arts, engineering, law, medicine, science, social work,...), as they help us explore how to live out our faith in the day in and out of life.

“Jubilee... is one of the most beautiful glimpses of God’s diverse Kingdom. Every year I attend Jubilee I have these moments where heaven feels so close; God is real, the end of injustice is possible with Jesus, and I’m filled with celebration and possibility. Jubilee is hope for my soul.”
- Erica Reitz



See Linda Ference for information about Jubilee. Or check it out online at jubileeconference.com

Graystone/CCO Partnership News: A Change in Personnel

The New Year has brought a change in our Campus Ministry Team. As you know Josh Hostetler was hired as an associate campus director in the fall. This was in accord with our session-approved plan to effectively reach the campus through partnering once again with the Coalition for Christian Outreach (CCO). Josh is a very gifted and enthusiastic young man but as the fall progressed it became evident that his vision for ministry was leading him in a different direction. After a lengthy and intense discernment process involving Josh, CCO executive leadership, in consultation with our Personnel Team, and under God’s sovereign guidance we came to a positive conclusion to free him and us to find a better match in ministry philosophy. Our blessings are with Josh and Courtney as they pursue the next step in their journey.

Through this process the Partnership between Graystone and CCO was strengthened. CCO is committed to reaching college students with the gospel through Church partnerships. As many of you know CCO was birthed at IUP through Graystone in the 70’s and together they had a tremendous impact on the campus. Student leadership from those early years took their model of ministry to other campuses and now they have 212 staff members on 87 campuses. For more information about CCO visit ccojubilee.org. We look forward to moving forward in ministry under the continued leadership of Linda Ference in partnership with CCO.

AVAILABLE NOW!!! 2012 MISSION YEARBOOK OF PRAYER AND STUDY

This little book may be one of the best-kept secrets at Graystone. For more than 118 years the *Mission Yearbook* has brought the Presbyterian family together daily for prayer and study. The theme for 2012 is: “Bearing Fruit and Growing in the Knowledge of God,” based on Colossians 1:10. Stories of faith and hope from next door and around the globe will inspire you daily, along with lectionary readings ideal for personal devotions. Use it for daily devotions, increase your mission awareness, be inspired by the good things happening in our denomination at home and abroad, and partner with mission workers in prayer. Just stop into the church office and ask for one!

Prefer to receive the readings via email?
Contact missionyearbook@pcusa.org



**STEPHEN MINISTERS
ARE CALLED TO BE
CAREGIVERS**

**GOD IS THE
CAREGIVER**

Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ. Galatians 6:2

HAVE A BLESSED AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!

The Stephen Ministry Team has some exciting news:

- Stephen Ministry Training begins January 10, 2012 (6:30pm – 9pm)
- Anyone not already signed up and is interested in becoming a Stephen Minister please contact Pastor Bill Milligan.
- We would like to invite any active/or inactive Stephen Minister/Leader to attend any of the training classes. You can stop by the church office for a copy of the schedule.
- Once the new class has completed their fifty hours of Stephen Ministry training, they will be able to provide one-to-one care to individuals experiencing difficulties in life.
- The skills our Stephen Ministers learn and practice prepare them to provide a very high level of Christian care giving. The training is very intense because it explores some serious life issues, but it is also growth-producing and an enjoyable experience. Please pray for the upcoming Stephen Minister trainees and the Stephen Leaders who will lead these classes so as Caregivers they will be and continue to be Compassionate, Full of Faith, Skilled in their Care, and Trustworthy.

Being involved in Stephen Ministry helps us through many circumstances in our lives as well as helping others through difficult times in their lives.

When you or someone you know is in need of care... please call the church office or one of our Referral coordinator's.

Pastor Bill Milligan, 724-349-5556 x15
 bmilligan@graystonepc.org
 Jack Shepler, 724-479-9115 (Welcome back, Jack!)
 Edna Lehman, 724-463-0058

GRAYSTONE'S GOT TALENT!!!

WHAT'S YOURS???

- Singing??
- Comedy??
- Ballet??



EVERYONE'S GOT ONE!!!

- Juggling??
- Baking??
- Painting??



Would you like to share your talent with us?
 If so, start thinking about it NOW and...

**SAVE THIS DATE:
 Saturday, February 4, 2012
 7:00 p.m.**

Who are you? What can you do?
 How can we contact you? What do you need to do "your thing"?

Forms will be available in the Christian Ed Lobby beginning on January 8!



CALL TO THE CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

The session calls the Annual Meeting of the Congregation of Graystone Presbyterian Church for January 29, 2012 at 6:00 p.m. in the Church Gathering Place. The purposes of the meeting are to hear reports from the pastor and session, including plans for the future; receive reports from church staff, Endowment Fund trustees, other Church boards and the Church Treasurer; elect elders, deacons, Endowment Fund trustees and congregational members of the Nominating Committee; receive the 2012 Budget for information; review the adequacy of compensation for the Pastor and approve the proposed terms of call for the Pastor; and transact other business as appropriate.

A congregational dinner will precede the Annual Meeting at 5:00 p.m. Meat, rolls and beverage will be provided. Bring a dish to share and your own table settings. Call the church office to RSVP.

DOING THE RIGHT THING!

A six week Adult SMASH special series designed for those involved in today's market place, industry, academic setting, legal, medical and professional arenas.

With the recent scandals in our society, who is addressing the subject of ethics? As Christians, we believe in right and wrong and integrity. We shouldn't shy away from dealing with evil – and we have the good news of Christ for sinners.

Brit Hume moderates this presentation at Princeton with panelists Chuck Colson, Robert George and other prominent thinkers of our day.

The first three topics are: *How did we get into this mess? Is there truth, a moral law, we can all know? And if we know what is right, can we do it?*

Each video presentation will be followed by our own panel as well as comments and questions from the class.

This begins on Sunday, January 8th, during SMASH (Sunday Morning Adult Study Hour), the teaching hour between worship services. Place to be decided.

DON'T MISS IT!

HOSPITAL VISITATION BLESSINGS



In addition to Pastor Bill Milligan, Graystoners are visited at Indiana Regional Medical Center on a daily basis by one of the members of Graystone's hospital visitation team. They bring "the fragrance of Jesus Christ" to the sick and serve as ambassadors of both Jesus Christ and Graystone Church.

Recently one of the hospital visitation team members wrote:

"I've been blessed by the Hospital Visitation experience. I've laughed with, shared faith experiences (theirs and mine), talked family history (I know how Don and Gladys Rodgers met), made new friends, watched tender moments between family members and have built relationships with other hospital staff. I tenderly call the people I visit "my patients". I've watched a few deteriorate over time, some have passed away, several still struggle with illness, but many have gotten well and gone back to their homes. I've prayed with them all and cried with a few, even as I write this my eyes tear up with joy and sadness for my friends. I have memories that I will cherish forever. Thanks Graystone for the opportunity to serve."

Hospital Visitation and Equipment comes under the umbrella of Member Care and is a ministry of the Board of Deacons.

Linda Lloyd, Deacon

An Anonymous Angel

On Monday, December 5, I sat down with my friends on the Counting Team to open envelopes and count collection from the day before. My job is to open envelopes that have no identification on the outside, record the name of the giver and the amount of the gift if there's a name on a check, and send it on to Connie or Becky to mark which of the Church's three funds it should be designated to. On top of the stack was a plain envelope marked simply "Church Regular Offering" in slightly shaky penmanship. I opened it and had my WOW experience for the morning. Inside were twenty \$10.00 bills! I counted them twice to be sure and placed them with the "Loose Offering" for the day. That includes any cash or coin not in an envelope and any unidentifiable money in a pew or other envelope.

That afternoon, a friend asked if I had received a special envelope that morning. Of course I knew what she meant and said an enthusiastic yes. She smiled and said she knew who the donor was, not a member of the congregation but just someone who wanted to help other people. What she did not know-and perhaps you don't either- is that all the Loose Offering on the first Sunday of each month is designated to be given to the Food Bank at Grace Methodist Church, and that this anonymous gift would nearly double the average amount we send. This gift will help far more local folks than the giver might have realized.

I've kept the envelope to remind me of the generosity of God's people and how easy it is to help others through this Church in ways we don't always think about. I wish I could personally thank the donor of this gift; perhaps the message will be passed on. Think about this cause on the first Sunday of the month, and if you have a bit of extra cash or coin in your pocket, remember how it could be helpful to those who are "hungry, and you fed them".

An Anonymous Author

**GRAYSTONE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
640 CHURCH STREET
INDIANA, PA 15701**

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Permit No 25**

Return Service Requested

**Deadline for
submitting an article
for the February Issue
is January 13. All
articles submitted for
consideration are
subject to editing.**

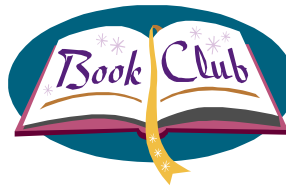


January 2012

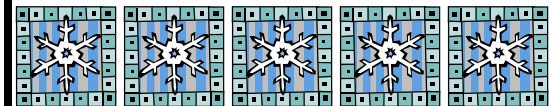
News From The Seanor Library

OPEN HOUSE: Thank you, friends for attending the library Open House in December. Gladys Rogers, our first MVR (Most Valued Reader) helped us by drawing the names of the winners of the five new books we gave away. The winners were Rachel Addleman, Cappie Bell, Jack Frank, Janice Kennedy and Raeleigh Smith. Congratulations!

BOOK CLUB: We are planning to distribute our Book Club book for reading in February. As in the past, we will have about a month to read the book and then we'll meet together at the beginning of March to discuss it. Dick Cassel has consented to lead our discussion. We have four possible books. Dick will help us make the selection. We hope you will plan to join us for this interesting and fun time.

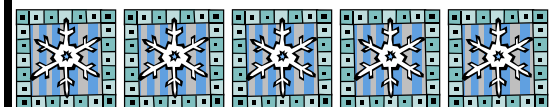


NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS: If you are making resolutions for the New Year, could we suggest a couple? 1. Explore the library. It's amazing the wonderful things you'll find there! 2. Join a great group-the Library Team. No special skills are needed. Each person finds some task he/she can do to help and we have a good time while we check in books, prepare new books, make decisions about new materials, plan activities like Reading Contests and Sunday School visits to the library. We meet on Thursday afternoon. Contact Jeannette Frank at 724-463-0044 for more information.



**PEP Luncheon
January 18
12:00 noon
Gathering Place**

Reservations can be made by
calling Gladys Rodgers at
724-465-6444 by January 15.



January 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 8:00 Prayer for Worship 8:30 Worship 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship	2 <i>Office Closed</i>	3 9:00 Stephen Ministry Peer Groups 2:30 Stone Lite 6:00 Stephen Ministry Peer Groups 6:00 Bells 7:00 National/Global Mission Cmte	4 8:00 Prayer Group 9:45 Image Bearers 12:00 Personnel Cmte 5:00 SS Teachers Small Group 6:30 Depression Support Group 6:30 Stone 6:30 Celebration	5 6:30 Promise Keepers Bible Study—Eat N Park 10:00 Staff Meeting 1:00 Library 6:30 Chancel 6:30 Grief Share 7:00 Worship Team	6	7 7:30 Men's Small Group—Perkins
8 8:00 Prayer for Worship 8:30 Worship 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship 5:00 Crusaders 5:00 Youth Ministry Team Meeting 6:30 Stone Small Groups	9 1	10 9:30 Presbyterian Women Circles 2:30 Stone Lite 6:00 Bells	11 8:00 Prayer Group 9:45 Image Bearers 5:00 SS Teachers Small Group 6:30 Stone 6:30 Celebration 6:30 Caring Friendship Group	12 6:30 Promise Keepers Bible Study—Eat N Park 10:00 Ministry Staff Meeting 1:00 Library 6:30 Chancel 6:30 Grief Share 7:00 Worship Team	13	14 7:30 Men's Small Group—Perkins
15 8:00 Prayer for Worship 8:30 Worship 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship 5:00 Crusaders 6:30 Stone Small Groups	16	17 9:00 Stephen Ministry Peer Groups 2:30 Stone Lite 6:00 Bells 6:00 Stephen Ministry Peer Groups 7:00 Deacons	18 8:00 Prayer Group 9:45 Image Bearers 5:00 SS Teachers Small Group 6:30 Stone 6:30 Celebration 6:30 Depression Support Group	19 6:30 Promise Keepers Bible Study—Eat N Park 10:00 Staff Meeting 11:30 Core Leadership 1:00 Library 6:30 Chancel 6:30 Grief Share 7:00 Worship Team	20	21 7:30 Men's Small Group—Perkins
22 8:00 Prayer for Worship 8:30 Worship 9:30 Teacher's Breakroom 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship 5:00 Crusaders 6:30 Stone Small Groups	23	24 2:30 Stone Lite 6:00 Bells 7:00 Session	25 8:00 Prayer Group 9:45 Image Bearers 6:30 Stone 6:30 Celebration	26 6:30 Promise Keepers Bible Study—Eat N Park 10:00 Ministry Staff Meeting 1:00 Library 6:30 Chancel 6:30 Grief Share 7:00 Worship Team	27 Youth Winter Jam	28 7:30 Men's Small Group—Perkins
29 8:00 Prayer for Worship 8:30 Worship 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship 5:00 Congregational Dinner 6:00 Annual Meeting	30	31 2:30 Stone Lite 6:00 Bells				

Worship Statistics: FYI

DECEMBER 2011

	8:30	11:00	Total	Offering
12/4/11	275	214	489	\$31,912.27
12/11/11	309	179	488	\$18,950.96
12/18/11	302	204	506	\$21,996.00
12/24/11	527	357	884	\$12,636.10
12/25/11	10:30 Service		222	\$17,015.00

2012 Pledge Update

Thank you to those who have pledged to the Ministry and Mission of Graystone Church so far. Currently, the following has been pledged by 200 units. This is an average of \$3,055 per pledge and represents 94% of our goal of \$650,000.

Core:	\$418,044.50
Mission:	\$116,964.50
Building:	\$75,975.00
Total:	\$610,984.00

If you have not turned in your pledge you can still do so. Help us reach our goal.

SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE FROM THE ENDOWMENT FUND

Through the generosity of several former Graystone members, there are several scholarship funds administered through the Endowment Fund. To learn more about the requirements and stipulations, please see our church website, www.graystonepc.org.



For consideration to receive funds for the Spring 2012 semester, applications must be received in the office by January 15, 2012.

MEMBER CARE

Notes of Thanks

Dear Graystone Friends and Family:

In February Luther was diagnosed with a tumor. At this time we didn't know what we had to face. The words from James 5:14 says, "Is any one of you sick? He should call the elders of the Church to pray over him and anoint him with oil." This was done after the Second Service. We would like to thank the Ministers, Elders, Friends and Family that was there with us.

On March 15th he had surgery to remove the tumor which lasted 8 1/2 hours. On May 9th he started his chemo treatments. His last treatment was on October 17th. As we have progressed through this journey we are so thankful to all of you who have prayed for us. At times when we couldn't pray, your prayers have sustained us.

For all the cards, visits, words of encouragement we would like to say Thank You—Thank You—Thank You!

None of us know what the future has for us, but we can rest in his promises. "Be strong and of good courage, do not be afraid or terrified because of them for the Lord your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you."

With God and your help, Luther's life has been touched with his healing grace. He is cancer free!

Thank You
Luther and Gaylene Robinson

A Note of Thanks.....

We wish to thank you Graystone family for all your prayers and expressions of love and concern these past months. We definitely felt the uplifting of your prayers. Please continue to pray as Marilyn goes through chemo-therapy.

- Art and Marilyn Brown