



During confirmation retreats, I have the class work together to place the entire biblical story in a single timeline. I help the class out by sketching some clues on the large scroll such as “In the Beginning God Created.” Obviously, the symbols for Adam and Eve, the Garden of Eden, the fall, the flood, and the tower of Babel fit under this heading. The youth usually get this right. The second heading is “God Chose a People.” The youth are supposed to place the names of the patriarch’s (Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph) and their wives here and we hope in the correct order. Then, under the clue “God judged and redeemed a nation,” it is hoped that they can place the period of bondage in Egypt, Moses and the Exodus, the Judges, and the establishment of the Kingdom under King David. This doesn’t go so well. After this, it gets dicey. They recognize a few of the Kings after Solomon and the names of some of the prophets sound familiar. However, the youth are never able to place these figures in their historical context. The Exile. Huh? It is not that they haven’t heard of Isaiah and Moses, it is they cannot fit these stories into the larger context of the biblical narrative.

My friends who teach high school history lament their students can’t place the Presidents of the United States in their proper historical periods either. Reconstruction. The Industrial Revolution. Are they before or after Abraham Lincoln? Just image how hard it is for someone with no background in the Bible who joins us for worship. They are told the reading is from Paul’s letter to the Corinthians. Who is Paul? Why is he writing letters to people in Corinth? How is this connected to Jesus?

Since the 1970’s, congregations have tried to better connect worshippers with the whole bible. The Common Lectionary was designed to teach the whole biblical story. The common lectionary presents five lessons each week and runs on a three years’ cycle. Each week, it includes a Psalm, a reading from the Old Testament history, a reading from the Prophets, the Gospel lesson, and a text from one of the Apostles letters. The good news is that the lessons are usually connected thematically. However, the lectionary follows the church calendar with Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, Easter, and Pentecost. The church calendar prohibits us from presenting an orderly movement from the beginnings in Genesis to the work of the early church. Even good church goers don’t know the whole story.

A few years ago, some pastors and seminary professors devised another method of teaching the Biblical story. It is called the *Narrative Lectionary*. The *Narrative Lectionary* is a four-year cycle of readings for use in worship and preaching. The goal is to preach annually through the biblical narrative so that the lives of believers might be centered on God’s story as told in scripture.

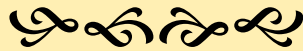
Each year, the preaching traces the whole sweep of biblical history. In September through the 4th Sunday in Advent, the Old Testament will be the primary vehicle for proclaiming the biblical story. For example, on September 11th, we begin with the Genesis story of creation and the fall. The second week of Genesis is on Abraham and the third on the other patriarchs —either Jacob or Joseph. Then, we move to the Exodus story: the giving of the 10 commandments and the time in the wilderness. After that, we will examine the next two periods in biblical history, which are Judges and the United Kingdom under King David. From there we move on to King Solomon and the divided Kingdom. Then, we hit the prophets until we conclude with the prophecies about the coming of Jesus on the 3rd Sunday of Advent.

When we celebrate Christmas and the birth of Jesus, we start the telling of the story of Jesus’ life from the beginning. This year, we will tell Jesus’ life through the gospel of Luke. By the time we get to Easter, we will have covered his teaching and healing ministry. During Holy Week, we read the Passion narrative. On Easter, we will celebrate the Resurrection. After Easter, we will move on to the study of the early church.

In the summer, we will have our special services: Women’s Sunday, Youth Sunday, Men’s Sunday, and the Service of Ordination. During July and August, we will do two sermon series on sections of the scriptures that could use extended teachings; sort of what we did this summer with the Book of James.

I am excited about this approach to teaching/preaching through the bible. I am already reading commentaries on Genesis and Exodus. We will be putting the next weeks reading in the bulletin. I hope you will read it ahead of time so you will be able to get more out of the story. In June, I’ll put the Biblical timeline and the symbols out in the atrium. We will see how much you picked up!

Grace and peace, James Brassard

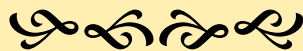


Worship Notes

September 4: Labor Day Weekend. Justin Devine will be giving the sermon. We will be looking at both the cost of discipleship and the eternal reward that follows.

September 11: We open the regular church year and the narrative lectionary. Reading is *Genesis* 2:4b-9, 15-18, 21-3:1-8, Adam and Eve and The Fall. What is lost when sin arrives?

September 18: *Genesis* 15:1-6, God's Promise to Abraham that his descendants' will be more numerous than the stars in the sky. What is the nature of the process of Hope?



A Note

from

Margaret Levitan

Congratulations to Jennifer and Ramzi Alldredge! They are proud parents of a healthy baby girl. Maleck and Jameeli are very excited to be a big brother and a big sister.

Welcome

*Ameera Anne
Alldredge*



Born on August 15th at 8:33 AM, weighing in at 6 lbs., 12 oz., and 20" long.

Jen and Ramzi are very happy and blessed by this miracle from God.

Both families and grandmas are so happy. Ameera is the third grandchild of Margaret Levitan. Margaret would like to let her CCPC family and friends know of the birth and also that Ameera's middle name is named after her step-mom Anne, who is 99 and lives in Florida.

And, a side note that on August 14th, Margaret retired from her job of 11 years and after being in the workforce for 46 years, just in time for the baby! She looks forward to helping out and enjoying her three grandchildren.

Congratulations, Margaret and family!

And . . .



Happy Retirement, Margaret!

Youth Orchestra

We are excited about gathering together the youth musicians who are affiliated with CCPC for our upcoming season! There will be new music from John Leavitt's Christmas Cantata called, "What Sweeter Music" as well as other music arranged by our own assistant music director, Kevin Clemence.

Answer the questions below and send an email to ccpcmusic@verizon.net or put the paper form in Susan Ricci Rogel's mailbox in the church office. After receiving, we will be in contact with you soon!

NAME: _____

GRADE: _____

SCHOOL: _____

INSTRUMENT(S):

YEARS OF INSTRUMENTAL STUDY: _____

OTHER PERFORMING EXPERIENCE (school band, orchestra, etc.):

I AM AVAILABLE FOR REHEARSALS ON SELECT WEDNESDAY EVENINGS at 7:30 PM: ☐ Yes ☐ No

I AM AVAILABLE FOR REHEARSALS ON SELECT SUNDAY MORNINGS at 11:45 AM: ☐ Yes ☐ No

If you have any questions or concerns about the CCPC Youth Orchestra, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you!

Susan Ricci Rogel, CCCP Music Director



Sunday School

Sunday School Starts On September 11th
with



Rally Day Breakfast at 9:00 AM
Classes are from 9:30—10:15 AM



Hey Everyone,

Sunday School is starting up very soon, and I hope you are as excited about it as we are! The Children's Ministry will be having several events throughout the year, but Sunday School is our ongoing source of Christian education for our children, so we invite all of you with children to bring them to participate in this wonderful program. We have added a few new teachers this year, but for the most part, things will continue as they did last year. Once again, I have prepared a FAQ to help answer some of the detail questions that you might have. So here it is:

Where do I go when I get here? Great Question! You and your child will come to Dodds Hall and grab a seat and enjoy breakfast and fellowship. You will fill out some basic information that we will use for the remainder of the year! Even if you arrive a few minutes late still come here first.

Who is teaching my child? What class are they in this year? While most of our teachers have stayed the same, there are a few changes. So, here is a listing of the age groups and the affiliated teachers.

Cradle Roll (sitting up – 30 months)

Alex Bourne
Catherine Coleman

Preschool (30 months – 5 years)

Kimberly & Melodie Dziduch
Kim Tavel & Becky Murphy



K – 2nd grade

Carrie Ahearn
Laurel Cox
Kris Ross

3rd – 5th grade

Emelie Rubin
Jennifer Woods
Monique Phelps



Connect (6th – 12th grade)

Kristen Zacheis
Charlie Dziduch
Peggy & Skip Oates

Now that I know what class they are in where is that classroom? There will be signs directing students where to go; on the first day, we will all be gathering in Dodds Hall before going to our individual classes so that will make things even easier! You will be able to pick up your children from these same classrooms at 10:15.

What will my children be learning? This fall we will be using the "Deep Blue" curriculum published by Cokesbury. The focus in September will be on Joseph's journey. Moving into the Exodus story in October.

What do I do while my child is in Sunday School? After breakfast, you will remain in Dodd's Hall for part 1 of our Adult Education series, "Great American Preachers." Wayne Smith will be teaching the first class that morning!

Any other questions,
just email me at CCPCDirCEd@verizon.net

In Christ,

Justin



Women's Mini Retreat & Luncheon

Inviting all women and friends to join us on

**Saturday, October 8th
9 AM to 1 PM in Dodds Hall**

Cost is \$5.00 per person

Women to Women – Age to Age, Titus 2

Bring an antique or modern kitchen gadget and wear an apron

- ◆ Coffee, tea, and light pastries
- ◆ Skit called, “Apron Pockets”
- ◆ Light lunch
- ◆ Closing worship program

Special Note: Babysitting provided, if needed.
Please specify on the signup form below or in Atrium.

Leaders: Nancy Honeyford and Peggy Oates

Women's Mini Retreat October 8th from 9AM – 1PM

Fill out form and give it along with \$5.00 to Nancy Honeyford or Peggy Oates

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Emergency Contact Name & Phone: _____

Food Allergies: _____

Babysitter Needed: _____ Yes _____ No

We look forward to seeing you!

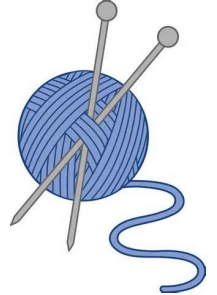


Adult Education

An inspiring sermon has frequently provided the means by which individuals find or intensify their faith. This fall, CCPC's Adult Education will focus on outstanding preachers who were notable for their sermons. Beginning September 11th, Adult Education will present a 10-week series on "Great American Preachers." Among the topics are Jonathan Edwards, Harry Emerson Fosdick, Fulton J. Sheen, and Billy Graham. Please join us in the Adult Education Room or Dodds Hall at 9:30 each Sunday morning.

Knits with Sticks

After our summer break, CCPC's Knits with Sticks will resume meeting on the fourth Monday, September 19th, at 1:00 PM in the Parlor. We will discuss our new focus at that time. New knitters, crocheters, or anyone wishing to brush up on their skills are welcome.



Tiger Lilies



The Tiger Lilies are members and friends who select books to read, study, and discuss together. We meet on the second Monday evenings from September through May at 7:30 in the Parlor. New members are welcome! Our next meeting is September 12th. We plan to discuss books we've read over the summer and select a book to discuss this fall. Please join us! Contact: Andrea Brassard 301-352-0075 or andreabrassard@verizon.net

CCPC Library

The library is undergoing a major renovation! We ask that before September 30th, you look at the books in the library. Any books you think we should keep, please move to the two empty bookshelves labelled "Save." There is a box on the table for any Paper Tiger books. Children's Ministry will be having a book sale at the end of January. As of September 12th, we will be taking any sort of books you'd like to donate. Please put in the library against the wall marked donations.



Thanks!

Eviction Notice!



As of September 12th, a typewriter; adult bathroom chair; overhead projector and screen; metal easel; and a cane will be evicted from the library. If you can give them a new home, feel free to take them!

Two lanterns, a blue coffee pot, and two sleeping bags from VBS are lonely and want to go home! Owners please pick them up at your earliest convenience. If you no longer want them, please let Kim Tavel know.

Thank you!

Paper Tigers

Paper Tigers is a men's book group, who meet weekly on Wednesday mornings from 8:00 to 10:00 in classroom one on the Dodds Hall side of the building.

We will be starting a new season on Wednesday, September 7th, with a kick-off breakfast in Dodds Hall and choosing our first book.

If you're interested in joining, now is the perfect time!

Questions? Contact Jim Woods at 410-672-8944, jpwoodslll@verizon.net



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CCPC, the first Protestant church in Levitt Bowie, was born from a passion for Christian mission in the local community, and this focus continues.

Our Mission: To worship God, to grow in faith and community, and to place our gifts in the service of Jesus Christ.



Belair Cooperative Nursery School

The school is a non-profit, non-sectarian, and non-partisan organization. It's located in the CE Building of Christian Community Presbyterian Church. Call 301-464-5782 or Email info@belaircoop.org
www.belaircoop.org



Imagine - Yoga & Wellness Center

Located in the CE building, offers yoga and a variety of wellness programs to CCPC members and the community. For more information, visit www.ImagineThePlace.com, call 443-510-6308, or e-mail info@ImagineThePlace.com. Scholarships available.

