

I attended two events this past weekend that honored the lives of people who made a mark in this community. On Saturday night, I attended a ceremony at Bowie City Hall that celebrated Joan Christian and Mary Nusser's addition to the Bowie "Hall of Honor." The Hall recognizes individuals who have made a lasting contribution to the city of Bowie. Both honorees were influential in getting the Bowie Performing Arts Center built. Mary worked at Bowie High School; Joan did pioneering work promoting diversity in our city. The Hall of Honor was established in 1994. It now numbers 22.

Sunday afternoon, I officiated, alongside the CCPC Beautification Team (Bob and Anne Shelby, Audrey Bahler and David Conrad), at CCPC's 12 Annual Dedication of Memorial Bricks. Our celebration goes back to 2007. We now have 156 memorial bricks, 64 of whom have had their ashes dispersed in the Garden.

We dedicated only four bricks this year. Instead of making remarks myself, I asked family members of the honorees to talk briefly about their loved ones. Scott Brock talked about his mother Suzanne and her long service in her Lutheran Church in Pennsylvania. Suzanne was only here her last few years but found a home with our community as well. Julie Hesenperger spoke for the five members of Helen Bujac's family who attended the ceremony. Helen, and husband, Eugene, were charter members. Their bricks can be found side by side on the walkway. Michael Curtis, and his wife, Karen, were on hand to honor the service of his mother, Barbara. Barbara died of cancer in 1986. Barbara was a member of the first bell choir. We laughed at the humorous suggestion Barbara offered for the groups' name (Hell's Bells). Myrna Webb shared memories of the joyful service of Dessamore Hillman. Her brick lies next to her husband, Bud. It was a great day remembering four of God's Saints. Their lives sang out with joyful service to the Lord.

The service really started with Susan's Ricci Rogel's beautiful presentation of the great hymn "For All the Saints." I love the third verse:

*O blest communion, fellowship divine!
We feebly struggle, they in glory shine;
Yet all are one in thee, for all are Thine.
Alleluia! Alleluia!*

I have been pastor at CCPC for 13 years and know many, but not all, of the people whose names are stamped in the Bricks. I walk in the garden often. When I stop to read some of the names, I usually notice the year they died. I often say to myself, has it been 8 years? It seems like I just shared a good story with him or her the other day. The church is a location where the Saints come together to worship and serve together and share the good news of Jesus Christ. That good news does not stay here; it is carried out into the world.

Genesis tells us that we are created in the image of God. Our lives carry part of God's creative work. It is always a privilege to remember their stories.

Together in Christ's joyful service,

James Brassard

Worship Notes

October 1: We conclude the series on Adam and Eve titled, *The World's First Love Story*. Did you know that Adam and Eve added to their family after Cain killed Abel? It took 130 years but they had Seth and then added several more children. F. Scott Fitzgerald said "there are no second acts in history." You can't say that about God and God's people. Come and hear how the first couple found the courage to write a new chapter in their lives. Scripture is Genesis 4:25-5:5

October 8: What has your journey toward following God looked like? Have you resisted along the way? Jacob spent much of his adult life finessing his way to closer his position to God. His great encounter changed him for the better.

October 15: In the book of Judges, chapter 6, the angel of the Lord appeared to Gideon and said, "The Lord is with you. Gideon answered him, "But Sir, if the Lord is with us, why has all this happened to us?" Gideon asks a timeless question. If God is with us and advocates for us, why do God's people sometimes suffer? There are three sources of suffering. How does God's presence help us respond to suffering?

Just to let you know . . .

Robin will be out of the office starting when she leaves on Wednesday, October 11th and will return on Thursday, October 26th. We hope to have some volunteers manning the phones. If you would be interested in helping out, please give her a call at 301-262-6008 or send her an email at ccpcbowie@verizon.net.

There will be no mid-month newsletter for October. The next newsletter will be dated November 1, 2017 and the **deadline is by 9:00 am Friday, October 27th**.

In Memory of

Joseph Calvin King

April 23, 1926 - Sept 17, 2017

Joseph Calvin King of Bowie, Maryland passed away on Sunday, September 17, 2017. Joseph was the husband of the late Mary T. King; father of Tomas J. King, James "Jamie S. King and his wife Traci and the late Carol Stone; brother of the late Nancy Welte; grandfather of Kelley Stone, Amy Tomer and Nolan King. Services are private.

<http://robert-e-evans.tributes.com/dignitymemorial/obituary/Joseph-Calvin-King-105206684>

Our thoughts and prayers are with the King family.

Blake Family Registry!

Earlier this summer, CCPC helped build a house for the Blake family of West Virginia. We have created a registry to help provide items for their new house. If you are interested in purchasing some items, please use the link below. Thank you for your support!

Click the link below and you will be taken to the Judith Blake Family List on Walmart's website. Pick the available item(s) you would like to purchase from the Qty section to add to your cart. When finished, click check out and you will be taken to a page that you either have to create an account or login to your account. Once you're signed, go to your cart and checkout. Please use the Blake family name and address to ship to. The ship to address is in Rainelle, WV and listed when you check out. If you have any questions, please contact Joi Kesner at 301-352-7260 or jvkesner@gmail.com.

<https://www.walmart.com/lists/manage-wish-list-items?id=7181e236-e4a1-421c-9d99-b73ba29a500c&action=SignIn&action=SignIn&action=SignIn>

Bowie's Distinguished Yard Awards **2017 Winners**

On Thursday, September 21, 2017, Reverend Brassard and Ellen Wimbish attended the Bowie Distinguished Yard Awards ceremony where the City of Bowie recognized CCPC for Distinguished Memorial Garden of 2017.

This award is due to the hard-work that Anne and Bob Shelby have lovingly provided throughout many years. We so appreciate all of your work, Anne and Bob. Thank you so much!

Directory Updates

Please note Barbara Weaver's contact information is:
469 Jumpers Hole Road, #213, Severna Park, Maryland 21146

Home: 410-672-6267 Cell: 301-351-7621

Thank You!

I'd like to thank everyone for all of the prayers and nice cards I received. The phone calls and cards certainly lifted my spirits as I'm battling through this stage of my life. As the *Daily Word* says, "Let go and let God!" I'm praying for some direction; where's the next step?

I'll be home on Friday, September 29th! - Blessings on all of you, Chris Campbell

Dear CCPC Family:

My sisters, brother, and I would like to thank you for all the love, prayers, encouragement, and hugs (actual and virtual) that have been lifted up for us or demonstrated to us over the past 2 years and especially that last few weeks. We miss our Mom, Carol Towers, terribly but try to take comfort in the fact that she is with her Lord, my Dad, her sister, and her parents. What a glorious homecoming that must have been. The hard time was truly made a little easier because we knew we were being lifted up in prayer when we were too tired or distraught to be able to find words. We thank God that He brought us to such a church.

With much love, Don and Judy Genson

A special thank you to our work day volunteers that assisted the Smith family with yard work, house repairs, painting, and cleaning: Cyd and Bill Radden-LeSage, Bob Hiller, Skip Oates, Ellen and Al Wimbish, Marty Sippel, Ernie Doyle (and granddaughters: Keira and Jenna Cutter), Justin Devine, Alex Kummer (Justin's sister), Scott and Mary Brock, Sharon Mcnamara, James Brassard, Ryan Remley, and of course the homeowners: Michelle and Kevin Smith (and Kennedy). We have made terrific progress on turning the house into a home for this wonderful family. Much more work is to come, so stay tuned for more opportunities to help in the future!

Ryan Remley, Mission Chair

CCPC Session Highlights

August/September 2017

Report on New Service Schedule

1. The new service schedule that began on September 10 showed strong attendance at both services, an energetic breakfast, and adult/child education offerings.
2. Feedback from the Session on the new contemporary service was positive and marketing strategies include continuing outreach into the community. Outreach to the community for the new service had included post-cards (including to members encouraging them to bring friends to the services), posters, and Facebook.
3. Session members agreed that more guidance regarding song participation times is needed.

Director of Christian Education (Justin Devine)

1. Justin reported a variety of volunteers for education programs with a high energy level for the fall.
2. Youth group went camping in September
3. Children's campfire is set for September
4. The Session discussed the timing of the education hour between the two services, particularly how to help flow and encourage people to go to education class. The Caller will report the timing, locations and movement between services.

Mission

1. Joi Kesner is leading an effort to purchase household necessities for the family in West Virginia where CCPC helped to build a house for in the summer. Announcement continue to be made at church and in the Caller.
2. CCPC continues to work with the National Capital Presbytery regarding donations for Hurricane Relief for Texas, Florida, and Puerto Rico.
3. The Session passed a motion to support aid for South Sudan in a special offering on October 1.
4. There will be a special workday for the current residents of Hudson House at their new home on September 23 at 9:00 am

Disaster Relief

Give Hope Today!

Help Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) bring hope and healing to families impacted by recent national disasters.

From western wildfires to hurricanes to tornadoes, PDA has provided you the means to send money to specific areas of relief in locations of national disasters, via the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance page:

<http://pda.pcusa.org/situations/national/>

PDA is in touch with presbyteries in affected areas and offers assistance where needed. They are standing by with resources and National Response Team members ready to deploy upon invitation, when it is safe to do so.

For those who wish to support PDA's emergency response and recovery efforts, gifts can be designated online, via the link above, to one of many possible types of disasters. Or you can make a check to CCPC (put "PDA- [disaster name]" on the Memo line. We will include it with our gift to them. Or, you can send a check directly to:

Presbyterian Church (USA)
PO Box 643700
Pittsburg, PA 15264-3700

You can also donate by phone Monday through Friday from 8am to 5pm (EST) at [1-800-872-3283](tel:1-800-872-3283).

So far, CCPC members have donated over \$11,000.00! Thank you!

God our Shelter, be a strong presence in the lives of neighbors who, having survived the winds and rains and wildfires of these disasters, now face grief, uncertainty and weary days. May our generosity in prayer and in tangible signs of support overflow more than floodwaters, to sustain your work of healing and rebuilding and bring comfort and strength to those who suffer. AMEN.

Peace and Global Witness

Special Offerings: Sunday, October 1, 2017

"Do justice, love kindness and walk humbly [with your God]," Micah 6:8. These powerful words call us to action and not only proclamation. A gift to the Peace & Global Witness Offering enables the church to promote the Peace of Christ by addressing systems of injustice across the world. CCPC is committing our offering to the people of South Sudan. We will be sending aid to the region of Northern Bahr el Ghazal to help with the terrible famine and drought in their difficult time of conflict.

The Presbyterian Mission Agency has also recognized the huge need in South Sudan and has set up work in the state of Jonglei, South Sudan. Our money will help address the physical and spiritual needs of the people of the region. Join us in prayer for these efforts and for a world where freedom rises for all. Please give generously.

(For more information visit: specialofferings.pcusa.org/peace-global)

Adult Education

Beginning on October 1, 2017, Adult

Education will offer two class options.

The first option is a five-week series called *Reformation: The Five Solas*. This series will focus on the Reformers' convictions about the essentials of Christianity. Each class will include a discussion of one of the five Solas, its meaning in the time of the Reformation and its modern repercussions. Discussions will be led by Mary Brock, Dodji Komlan, Kevin Rice, Steve Webb, and Jen Woods.

Meet in the Adult Ed Conference room.

The second option is *Living Christian in a Secular World*. This will be a structured bible study designed for people with relatively limited experience and knowledge of the Bible. Emphasis will be placed on applying scripture to the challenges of daily living in a secular world. Classes will be led alternately by Pastor James Brassard, Reverend Gary Cox, and Justin Devine, and will continue throughout the 2017-2018 year. Meet in the Belair room.

CCPC Work Day!

Saturday, November 18th from 9 AM to Noon

We need people to help with odd jobs around the church: replacing light bulbs; installing dispensers and door stops; etc. If you are available, we sure could use your help!

Hope to see you there!

Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men
~ Colossians 3:23 ~

Christmas Market

Sunday, November 5th from 10 AM to 2 PM

NOTE: Time change due to new service schedule

Give a Gift That Cares — your gift donation to any of the organizations given in the name of someone in your family, a friend, or a coworker will help improve the quality of life for people here and around the world. There will be tables representing organizations that work in Bowie, in the United States, and in countries from Honduras to South Sudan. The gifts will provide disaster assistance, clean water, literacy instruction, animals, needed supplies for our fire department, Habitat for Humanity, etc. Whatever your heart calls you to, you will find an organization or project that is a perfect match. Some of the organizations represented are: Bowie VFD, Champ House, Church World Service, Heifer Intl, Literacy at the Well in South Sudan, Living Waters for World, and Presbyterian Disaster Program. Children will be encouraged to participate with gifts in their price range and a passport to travel to the various locations that they can help. There will be a Soup Kitchen to get a delicious, warm lunch. If anyone would like to help out in the soup kitchen, please contact Debbie Sell at 301-928-9267. This year we plan to have kid-friendly food along with the soup. You can purchase your gifts and finish the shopping with a lunch and fellowship. If you have any questions you can call Sharon McNamara at 301-262-7060 or Kris Ross at 240-206-8787.



CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY

WOMEN'S CORNER

Our Kitchen

The dictionary says, "A **kitchen** is a room or part of a room used for cooking and food preparation in a dwelling."

Kitchens are the heart of the home, and everyone uses them differently - where friends gather and where food magic happens. Some kitchens are humble, cozy, tiny. Others are fancy, tricked-out, and big enough for everyone to have a job.

Christian Community Presbyterian Church is blessed to have a fabulous kitchen and pantry that allows us to enjoy many kinds of celebrations. The Women of the Church just ask for a few common courtesies when using the kitchen, so everyone has the same opportunities to appreciate a meal with others.

1. Wash dirty linens and return clean ones to the cabinet near the stove.
2. Take your remaining food with you. If you wish to leave leftovers for someone else – make **sure** that person is informed. Just because we have teenagers doesn't mean they will eat everything you leave behind.
3. Toss remaining drinks and clean the dispensers.
4. Let the church office know if anything is in disrepair.
5. Use the containers for food items in the pantry; it keeps away the pests.

Thanks for your help in keeping the kitchen and pantry clean and organized! If we all pitch-in it is nice for everyone.

Remember the kitchen is where life is lived, meals together are noisy and filled with laughter.

CCPC's Annual

TRUNK OR TREAT

Sunday, October 29, 2017
3:00 to 4:30 PM (Note the new times)

Come in costume and **meet on the playground** behind the church. While the grownups are getting their trunks decorated, the kids will have time for some outdoor fun and games.

Trunks should be ready by 3:30 so that the Trunk or Treating can begin. Decorate your vehicles, dress up in costumes, and hand out treats from the trunk of your car.

For the first time, we will be awarding a **Golden Pumpkin**, a **Silver Pumpkin**, and a **Bronze Pumpkin** for the best trunks!

No extra volunteers or candy donations. We just want you to join us for the fun.

In case of rain, the event will be held in Dodd's Hall.

Christian Community Presbyterian Church



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Bowie, MD 20715
Phone (301) 262-6008
Web: <http://ccpc.bowiemd.org>
E-mail: ccpcbowie@verizon.net



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.

