

The Paper Tiger's book group finished reading the book Bill Gates offered to buy for every student graduating from college. After reading it, I think everyone should read it. The book is *"Factfulness: Ten Reasons We're Wrong About the World—and Why Things are Better Than You Think."* The author, Hans Rosling, a professor of international health, goes around the world asking simple questions about global trends. He asks these questions of hedge fund managers, economists at Davos, and average citizens in 20 different countries. He asks 13 questions about the world. For example, Question #1: In all low-income countries across the world today, how many girls finish primary school? A. 20%, B 40% or C 60% the answer is 60%. Only 20% get this right.

Question #3: In the past 20 years, the population of the world living in extreme poverty has: A almost doubled, B remained the same, or C Almost halved. The correct answer is C. Only 5% of Americans got this question right. Extreme poverty has dramatically been reduced — primarily due to improvements in China and India.

Another question: What is the life expectancy of the world today? A: 50, B: 60, C 70. The answer is 70 years. 40% of Americans get this right. The average life expectancy in the world is actually 72. This is a combination of the number of bad things decreasing; fewer children dying before their 5th birthday; fewer dying from hunger, natural disasters, and war; and more good things happening.

Very few know that 80% of the 1 years olds in the world have been vaccinated against some diseases and that 80% of the people in the world have access to some electricity. On average — people only get two of the 13 questions right. Even the worlds most educated people score lower than Chimpanzees, who manage to get four of 13 right.

The only questions a higher percentage of people around the world get right is Question #13: Global climate change experts believe that over the next 100 years the average temperature will get A. warmer, B. remain the same, C. get colder. 86% get this right: it is A get warmer. Rosling has found that in every group of people he asks think the world is more frightening, more violent, and more hopeless — in short, more dramatic — than it really is.

Rosling then examines what makes us think things are worse than they actually are. It is our biases. To correct this and to have a more fact based view of the world, we need to remember that slow change is still change. If you keep track of gradual improvements — small change translates to a huge change over decades. Rosling uses his native Sweden as an example. Today, Sweden is a very rich and prosperous nation. However, 50 years ago, Sweden had poverty, education, and infant mortality rates that even the poorest nations in the world has surpassed today.

We also have a tendency to feel and not think. When people wrongly believe that nothing is improving, they may conclude that nothing we have tried so far is working and lose confidence in measures that actually work. An example is educating girls. When women are educated, all kinds of wonderful things happen in society. The workforce becomes more diversified and able to make better decisions and solve more problems. Educated mothers have fewer babies and more children survive into adulthood. More education and time is invested in each child's education. It is a virtuous cycle of change.

Finally, Rosling reminds us that when we are afraid we do not see clearly. Critical thinking is always difficult, but it is almost impossible when we are scared. Facts are empowering. There is a false narrative in the country that the world is a mess in need of a savior. The world is not a mess and we already have a Savior, Jesus Christ, who is still working to redeem God's creation.

Grace and peace,
James Brassard

Worship Notes

Worship this August will feature a sermon series on the 10 Commandments.
The four weeks will break out this way:

August 5

Communion Sunday. In *Exodus 19*, God says, *"I bore you on eagles wings and brought you to myself. Now, therefore, if you obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession out of all people."* Sermon is titled: "First things First."

August 12

The 10 Commandments are divided into two tables. The first table (commandments one through four) is also known as the "vertical table" of commandments that govern our relationship with God. Sermon title: "Tuned IN."

August 19

Youth Sunday. The AMOR Mission Team will report and share their experiences. An International Luncheon will be served after worship. This will be the best meal you have ever had at church! The sermon will focus on the second table (the horizontal table) on loving your neighbor as yourself.

August 26

Blessing of the Backpacks. The final installment on the 10 commandments will focus on the only one of the Ten Commandments that is repeated: "You shall not covet your neighbor's house. You shall not covet your neighbor's spouse." Many, is not most, big sins start when we set our gaze on something that belongs to another.



International Luncheon!

AUGUST 19, 2018
11:30 AM
Dodds Hall

Following Youth Sunday worship, Elder Bridget Peters and other members of our Cameroonian community are hosting an international luncheon.

They will provide all of the food. All you need to do is show up!

Attendance Volunteer Needed!



Cal and Lois Pals did the attendance duties for many years.
Thank you Cal and Lois!

Although we could never replace them, we need someone to take over these duties. It would only take a couple hours of your time each week. If you are interested, please contact the church office at 301-262-6008 or ccpcbowie@verizon.net.

Thank you for your consideration!

Congratulations!

Congratulations to Grace Salveron for the presidential award in educational excellence. Only 150 of these awards are given out nationally each year. She also received a congratulatory letter from Governor Hogan. We are so proud of you!

Love,
Nana and Pop (Chris & Hamer Campbell)



Thank You!

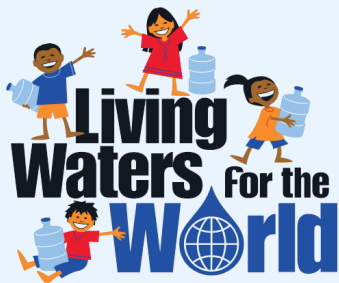
Dear CCPC Family,



We want to thank you for all your concern and prayers for Katia Natale during this challenging time. She's getting 3x strength chemo every three weeks and has returned to work. This will be a long arduous recovery towards the goal of five year remission and we deeply appreciate your continuing prayers.

Sincerely,

Natale and Kemberling Families



Meet Olvin!

CCPC has a rare and wonderful opportunity to welcome and become acquainted with one of our partners in mission.

Olvin Duron is from Honduras, and he is a friend and a brother in Christ to our Living Waters for the World teams, which have helped install eight water purification systems in Honduras. Olvin is a part-time employee of LWW in Honduras, and has joined our team for the last five installations; together we have been able to deliver the blessing of clean water to thousands of Hondurans in the villages where they live.

Olvin is visiting the US to participate in an LWW "summit" meeting to which all US installation teams like ours have been invited to attend. Chuck and Marjorie Tanner will be attending, and bringing Olvin back for a very brief visit to Bowie. On Monday night, 30 July, at 7:00pm, you are invited to come enjoy dessert in Dodds Hall, and meet Olvin and welcome him to CCPC. The LWW team will give a brief account of our last installation last April and Olvin will give an overview of the LWW mission in Honduras. It is important to realize that in the true spirit of partnership, not only are we getting the opportunity to welcome Olvin, but we also are giving Olvin the opportunity to thank CCPC for our work with his countrymen, which he is very anxious to do. So plan to spend this evening at CCPC welcoming Olvin, and celebrating the opportunity we have to show that Jesus Christ is living water for our bodies and our souls.



CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY

W O M E N S C O R N E R

Connect With Presbyterian Women

For most women, connecting with Presbyterian Women happens in the congregation. Many women also connect at presbytery, synod or church-wide levels.

Whether you want to participate at all of these levels or just a few, whether you want to support all of Presbyterian Women's work or just the ministries that speak to you . . . please do! Your life will be enriched by Presbyterian Women, and Presbyterian Women will be richer for having you!

CCPC's Presbyterian Women contacts are Cyd Radden-Lesage (301-352-9582 or wyonative@verizon.net) and Peggy Oates (301-262-6959 or peggyoates@hotmail.com). Feel free to contact either one of them with any questions or interests you may have.

You can also receive a lot of information by going to the Presbyterian Women's website at: <https://www.presbyterianwomen.org>

MATT VENUTI

music from the heart of the road



"A soul-stirring Maestro"
Jill Lawson, *Huffington Post*

"Haunting and enchanting"
Jodi Schwarzenbach, *Sarasota Post*

Thursday, July 26th

hosted by

Imagine Yoga and Wellness

7pm doors and reception/7:30 concert

\$15 advanced/\$20 at the door

3120 Belair Dr Bowie, MD

advanced sales and info:

www.ImagineThePlace.com 443 510-6308

Join singer-songwriter Matt Venuti on a soul-filled musical journey that will touch your heart, make you smile and get you high on the rhythm of life!

Matt plays the Hang and other rare melodic-percussive acoustic instruments created in Switzerland, as well as the highly expressive and dynamic EVI wind-synthesizer. He tours most of the year and has a rich history in San Francisco as a bandleader, composer and multi-instrumentalist performer.

www.mattvenuti.com

This event is designed for adults, young and older, thank you!

Beta House Volunteers Needed!



The Saint Matthew's Housing Corporation, a non-profit based in Bowie, recently acquired a second property and have been busy with renovations. David Miller has been coordinating the renovation and is actively seeking volunteers to complete the items that need to be finished before they can accept new clients. If you are interested or know someone who might be interested, please contact Dave Miller at millerdav@aol.com or 301-789-7272.

Bowie Interfaith Pantry

When you come to church, be sure to look for the bin in the Atrium where you can place items for the Bowie Interfaith Food Pantry. Also, if you take advantage of a buy one, get one free (such as potatoes or onions) you can also donate the free one if your family cannot use them. Skip Oates will take the items to the Pantry on a weekly basis. The need is always there!

Judy Frank & Ellen Wimbish
Mission Co-Chairs

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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.*

Please remember CCPC in your will.



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.

