

Steve Donoian gave me a copy of Antonin Scalia's book, "On Faith: Lessons from an American Believer."

Justice Scalia was an influential Supreme Court Justice from 1986 until his sudden death in 2016. An only child, Scalia and his wife had nine children, including a son, Christopher, who is a Catholic priest in Virginia. A graduate of a Jesuit high school and Georgetown University, Scalia is steeped in Catholic theology and literature. He is a vigorous defender of allowing religion a prominent place in public life.

Many of the essays included in the book were speeches Scalia gave at Catholic organizations or schools. These talks include many anecdotes from his days as a student in Catholic schools. Since he is talking to fellow Catholics who shared similar experiences, Scalia is charming and self-effacing and speaks fondly of the lessons he learned as a Catholic student. He believes a central task of a Catholic university is moral formation — to teach young men and women not merely to think well but to live virtuously.

Scalia tells one story several times because it expresses his experience at Georgetown, an institution that took a distinctive, very Christian approach to human knowledge. Scalia was taking his oral comprehensive exam as a history major, at the end of his senior year. He shares that he had done pretty well during all the questioning, and at the end, his history Professor, Dr. Wilkerson, asked him one last, seemingly softball question. "If you had to pick a single event as the most significant in all the history you have studied, what would it be?"

Scalia thought it was a softball question because there obviously could not be any single correct answer. What should he say? The Battle of Thermopylae? The French Revolution? The Grand Convention of 1787? Scalia said he couldn't remember the answer he gave, but it was wrong. The right answer, Dr. Wilkerson informed me, was the Incarnation (God becoming flesh in Jesus Christ). Of course, Scalia writes, point taken and an unforgettable lesson learned.

As we head into Advent, we prepare ourselves to celebrate the Incarnation. Christians believe that we best understand who God is and how God wants us to live, by following Jesus. Ann Weems, in one of her many Christmas poems in "Family Faith Stories," writes:

If we really believed God We wouldn't be bowing down to security at any expense. Old as we are, If we really believed, We'd be out giving birth To a world where we all loved each other

Even as much as we love ourselves.

Grace and peace, as we journey to Bethlehem, James Brassard

CCTC Directory Update

We have almost completed all of the pictures in the directory. If you have not turned in a picture, please see Steve Webb to have one taken. You may also send a picture in jpeg format to ccpcbowie@verizon.net.

Feedback Needed!

We are currently reviewing the church financial records for years 2016-2019. As part of this review, we are soliciting your opinion regarding the donation statements you received during this timeframe. Our goal is to provide an accurate, complete, understandable and timely accounting of your donations. We would like to hear about both problems and praises. We are especially interested in your thoughts if you are donating online. Your response will be strictly confidential. All results will be aggregated with any potentially identifying information removed. Please email your feedback to ccpcbowie@verizon.net with subject line saying, "Donor feedback." Thank you!

Friendly Reminder

Tomorrow! Saturday, November 23 from 8 AM to Noon

We need people to help with odd jobs around the church: raking leaves, replacing light bulbs, etc. Lunch will be served! If you are available, we sure could use your help!

Interfaith Thanksgiving Dinner & Worship

On Sunday, November 24, we will be having a Communal dinner in Dodds Hall at 5:30pm, followed by a Worship service in the Sanctuary at 6:30pm.

Stewardship Update

On November 17, we received 73 Estimate of Giving Cards with commitments of \$267,676. If you have not returned your card, please mail it in or drop it off in the Stewardship box in the Narthex.

Adult Education!



Overlooked Characters in the Bible

Join us for a 4-week course on lesser known characters and stories of the Bible.

All classes are at 10:00 am in the Adult Education Conference room.

What can we learn about God and faith from these rather obscure names?

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 24 - GARY COX: BATHSHEBA (2 SAMUEL and 1 KINGS) SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1 - DICK NEFF: PRISCILLA, JUNIA, and MARY (ACTS) SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8 - STEVE WEBB: STEPHEN (ACTS)

Malawi Mission

CCPC supports the work that Rochelle and Tyler do in Malawi. Tyler has visited the church a couple of times, so some of you may remember him. We wanted to share what Rochelle sent out with the latest update on Tyler. Please keep them in your prayers.

Tyler remains in the Trauma Intensive Care Unit in Johannesburg (South Africa), today marks 11 days in the ICU. Tyler is still on oxygen and only able to walk short distances during Physical Therapy. Rochelle and Mphatso continue to have visits to the ICU during the morning and afternoon each day.

Things I am grateful for:

*That we can be together in Johannesburg (South Africa) as Tyler heals.

Prayers for Today:

*Tyler's doctors, nurses and care team in the Trauma Intensive Care Unit.

*For grace, healing strength, and persevering faith.

*My (Rochelle) laptop will be ready for pickup today. Pray that the computer is fixed. As soon as it is back I need to start processing health insurance claims and for these submissions to go smoothly.

*For Mphatso, an active 6-year-old full of love and joy! Pray as we balance hospital visits and I (Rochelle) try to creatively get in schooling each day with Mphatso along with some fun time for her just to run and laugh. Also for Mphatso to understand the situation.

Please Pray! Grace and Peace, Tyler, Rochelle and Mphatso Holm Presbyterian World Mission/University of Livingstonia (Tyler) and Mzuzu University (Rochelle) Mzuzu, Malawi

Our mailing address is:

Tyler and Rochelle Holm, University of Livingstonia, CCAP, PO Box 112, Mzuzu, Malawi

A Celtic Christmas

Sunday, December 8th at 4:00 pm

Celtic Bay members Randy Welch, Michael Binnie and Robert Murray will join Celtic harper Mary Fitzgerald in presenting music from the British Isles on the Great Highland pipes, small Scottish pipes, guitar, bodhran, snare drum, Irish whistle and Celtic harp. The program will include audience participation in singing carols.

A free will offering will be received and a reception will follow.

Children's Christmas Trogram!

The Children's Ministry will be performing their Christmas program on Sunday, December 15 at 10:00 AM in Dodds Hall. The program will also feature performances by the Children's Bell Choir, the Children's Choir, the Celebration Choir, and Youth singers. A continental breakfast will be served.

Family Movie Night!

Join us on Saturday, December 7 from 5:30 to 8pm in Dodds Hall for a night of fun and fellowship. Bring a bean bag, blanket, & pillows, and a salad or side. Go to SignUp Genius or let us know what you want to bring. We will be watching, "The Grinch" and plan to have a special visitor from up North!

Toinsettia Orders
for Christmas
Christmas poinsettias will be here soon! We will have 7" pots with 30 reds, 6 whites, 6 pinks, and 12 marble. The price is \$14.50 each.
Orders must be in by Monday, December 16th
Any questions, please contact Judyann Feinstein at judith.a.glazener@gmail.com or 240-351-4121.
Your Name: Phone Number:
Given in memory/honor of (please print clearly)
7" Poinsettia - Qty @ \$14.50 each, for a
TOTAL of \$
(Specify color) red white pink marble ***********
Thank you so much for your generous contribution. The Flower Committee.



Christmas Families Calendar of Events

Sunday, November 24—Last Day for Sign Ups

Saturday, December 7—Setup Dodds Hall after movie night

Sunday, December 8—Wrapped Gift Drop Off (Dodds Hall)

Wednesday, December 11—Giant food pickup TBD Reset Dodd's Hall for Food Sorting Baked Goods Due (kitchen)

Thursday, December 12—Food Sorting & Consolidation 5pm—7pm

Friday, December 13—Family Pick Up/Delivery 9 am – 8 pm

We are still in need of money for the food for our Christmas Families. We have received \$800.00 of the \$3,000.00 we need.

Thank you to all who have donated!



Imagine Yoga & Wellness Center

You are cordially invited to our

Holiday Open House

(In the CE building behind the church)

Saturday, December 7th from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM

You can get all of your shopping done while being pampered with food, drink, and laughter!



Imagine Yoga & Wellness Center

You are cordially invited to our

Start Your New Year with Yoga!

Wednesday, January 1st At 10:30 AM in Dodds Hall

It is said that whatever you do on New Year's day is what you will do all year long — if you want to make Yoga a regular practice, this is a great place to start!

Marchesapeake Chorale

Magnificat

Celebrating the Jay of Singing since 1981

Sunday, December 15, 2019 3:00 PM

featuring Francesco Durante's Magnificat, Horatio Parker's Gloria in Excelsis Deo, & beautiful arrangements of old and new Christmas works



St. Matthew's United Methodist Church 14900 Annapolis Rd. • Bowie, MD 20715

Advance ticket sales at ChesapeakeChorale.org • (240) 206-8903 Jesse Parker • Artistic Director | Susan Ricci Rogel • Accompanist

Please bring canned goods to support the Bowie Food Pantry

Christian Community Presbyterian Church



3120 Belair Drive 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 <u>info@belaircoop.org</u>



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 <u>www.ImagineThePlace.com</u>, call 443-510-6308, or e-mail <u>info@ImagineThePlace.com</u>. Scholarships available.