

Dear Friends,

Can you feel a slight chill in the air? Is the aroma of all things pumpkin spice calling to you? The leaves are still green on the trees at my house, but we know that we have moved into a new season of life. And yet, so much remains the same. We are still living in quarantine, still dealing with a worldwide pandemic. It can be difficult to remain faithful and encouraged during such times. But it may be that we have turned — or are in the process of turning — an important corner. Just this past week, the state of Maryland had it's first day without any COVID-19 deaths in 187 days. A very good sign, but still, we must be cautious while remaining faithful and hopeful. I was inspired this week from a morning devotional reading. It comes from Mark Nepo's book, *The Book of Awakening*: "We can learn from the leaves that ducks swim around in lakes. In life as in water, when we curl up or flail we sink. When we spread and go still, we are carried by the largest sea of all: the sea of grace that flows steadily beneath the turmoil of events. And just as fish can't see the ocean they live in we can't quite see the spirit that sustains us." Nepo suggests that, if possible, we spend time near a lake or pond this fall, and watch the leaves that float on the surface of the water as a reminder that we, too, are carried by a spirit that we cannot see.

And as the cooler autumn days come upon us, we have wonderful opportunities to be outside together (wearing masks, and socially distant, of course). I hope that you will join us for our Outdoor Worship Services each Wednesday evening at 6pm, weather permitting. It is a wonderful time of prayer, scripture, music, and meditation.

And, I am available for porch visits! Give me a call or shoot me an email. Invite a few other CCPC friends! I would love to sit and get to know you better in these days of crisp fall air when we can be outside in God's creation together.

Peace,
Pastor Susan



P.S. Save the date for an Interfaith Thanksgiving Service: Sunday afternoon, November 22nd. More details still to come.



Bill A. McClay Jr.

MAY 2, 1932 – SEPTEMBER 7, 2020

With heartfelt sadness, we announce the passing of William A. McClay Jr., “Bill,” loving father, grandfather, uncle, and friend, on Monday, September 7, 2020. Bill and his wife, Jane, were married for 63 years and lived in Bowie, MD. Bill was a loving father to his 4 sons: Bill, Steve, Tom, and Jimmy and beloved grandfather “Gramps” to his 9 grandchildren: Samantha, Nathan, Blaine, Shelby, Kayleigh, Kennedey, Delaney, Zach, and Jake and his two great-grandchildren: Carter and Beckham. Bill and Jane were long time members and attended CCPC up through the 1970’s. We pray with Bill’s family and friends. If you would like to see the full obituary, please go to Evan’s Funeral Home website at: <https://www.evansfuneralhome.net/>.

Email Scams

As most of you already know, Pastor Susan’s email was compromised earlier this week. Please know that Pastor Susan will never ask people to buy her anything. If you receive any suspicious looking email, please confirm with the sender that the email is legitimate before taking any action. Please be extra vigilant with your emails, as there are many scams out there. If you would like information on how to avoid phishing scams, please visit the Federal Trade Commission’s website at: <https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/how-recognize-and-avoid-phishing-scams>.

Adult Education!

Next Sunday, October 4th, is Mary Brock’s last class in her series on the *Beatitudes*.

Next will be a three-part series on Jesus & the Outcast, featuring Rick Snyder, Ann Fleming, & Sara Huey.

Alternative Christmas Market!

There will be a *virtual* Alternative Christmas Market this year online.

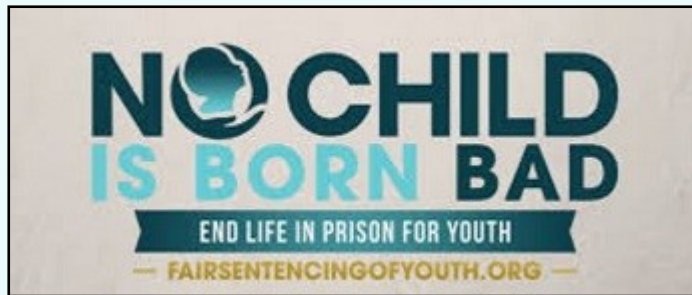
It will be from **November 15th to November 30th**. More information to come in the next *Caller*, as this will be a very different one, like the year of 2020 has surely been.

Outside Worship!

We are having worship services outside every Wednesday evening, weather permitting, at 6:00 pm in the back parking lot. Please bring a chair, wear a mask, and practice social distancing. Maximum number of people to attend is 20 and you must sign up with the church office by email ccpcbowie@verizon.net or by phone 301-262-6008.

Forum on Fair Youth Sentencing

Saturday morning, October 17 at 10:00am



The Race & Diversity Task Force is hosting a forum for our congregation and other local congregations to hear more about pending legislation to ban life sentences without parole for minors in Maryland.

Delegate Jazz Lewis and members of the Campaign for Fair Youth Sentencing will be presenting and suggesting ways we can support their efforts.

Registration is required on our website. [Click here](https://www.fairsentencingofyouth.org) to register.

Reopening Task Force Message!

Session has approved a request of the Reopening Task Force for an outdoor Vesper service this Wednesday September 23 at 6 pm. The service will be held in the rear parking lot at CCPC. It will be limited to 20 people and you will have to sign up by calling the church or sending an email to the church. You are asked to bring your own chair and wear a mask at all times. Social distancing will be kept by designated seat markings on the ground. If this service is successful, regular weekly Vesper services will be planned until the weather no longer allows this.

Astrid



Racial Awareness & Mindfulness Festival

A Mini-Festival of the Arts, Awareness, Healing, and Justice.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17 from 10:00AM to 3:00PM ONLINE

For more information or to register for the event, visit the link below:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/racial-awareness-and-mindfulness-festival-2020-tickets-107113216514>

Contact: racialawarenessfestival@gmail.com



Ears to Hear Happy Hour

CCPC is kicking off it's first podcast club! A podcast is like an on-demand radio program. **Beginning on Friday, October 16**, Sara Huey will host this Zoom-based club for the first 5-part series to discuss the New York Times podcast "The 1619 Project." Check out the link below:

<http://ccpc.bowiemd.org/ministries/race--diversity/ears-to-hear.html>

For more information, email Sara at saramhuey@gmail.com.

We will email the zoom link before the event.

Educational Opportunity!



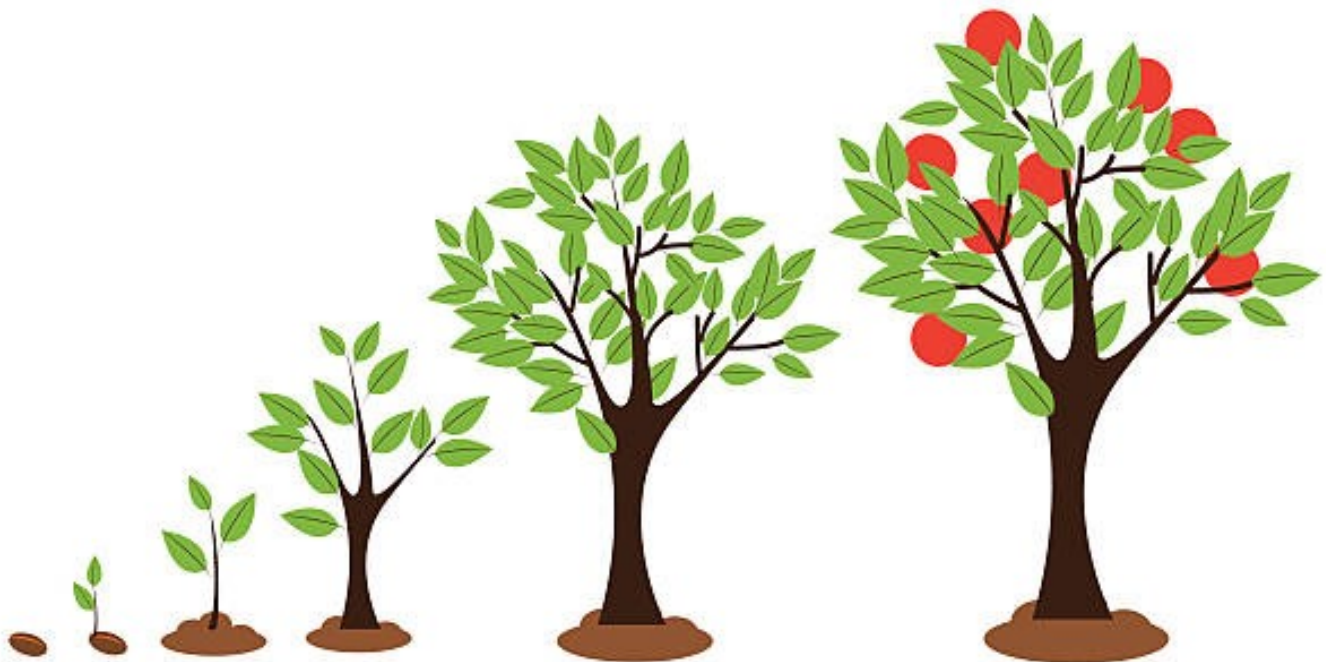
Register for Fall 2020 Pathways Online Courses at Union Presbyterian Seminary Courses open to all

**Each course meets weekly for five (5) weeks
7:00pm – 9:00pm EST**

Classes offered include: Biblical Interpretation and Polity & Administration, Reformed Theology/
Church History and Teaching the Bible.

For more info, click here:

<https://mailchi.mp/upsem/continuing-education-union-presbyterian-seminary-5052620?e=67aa4b5610>



2020 Fall

Virtual Concert Series

**Sundays at 4:00 pm
LIVE ON FACEBOOK!**

ccpc.bowiemd.org/calendar--events/concert-series.html



(“New”) Sunday, October 4: Bruce Jonas, pianist

Mr. Jonas will present a program of jazz and blues compositions as well as improvisatory arrangements of works by some classical masters.

Sunday, November 1: “Rosa Parks: A Time”

Nationally acclaimed actress Ms. Briley-Strand returns to CCPC as Rosa Parks in her historic act of civil disobedience that changed the course of the American Civil Rights movement.

Sunday, December 6: Capital Ringers

This virtuoso ensemble performs on six octaves of handbells and hand chimes in a seasonal program that includes a light show.

To ensure the continuation of our concert series, please consider a donation marked “CCPC Concert Series Friend”, either mailed to the above address, or made online at ccpc.bowiemd.org via ‘DONATE’.

Thank you for your generous support!

**For further information, please call 301-262-6008
or email ccpcmusic@verizon.net**

Christian Community Presbyterian Church



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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.