

Dear CCPC Friends,

Easter and springtime are both upon us. This means resurrection, rebirth, new life springing forth! Christ has risen, spring flowers are looking colorful, trees are sprouting forth buds, days are getting warmer and brighter. Nature is in full bloom and so is CCPC. We see new life all around us:

- ♥ Lillie Thomas II, our new staff member, will be bringing new life to the Children and Youth Ministries.
- ♥ Nearly all of our staff members have received at least one dose of the COVID-19 vaccine.
- ♥ Our Reopening Task Force is planning for ways to safely worship inside of our buildings in the coming months.
- ♥ We have now joined the More Light Network of PCUSA churches to make public our welcome to LGBTQIA+ persons.
- ♥ Rick Osborne has introduced us to a vibrant new ministry with puppets.
- ♥ Our Nominating Committee has a wonderful slate of disciples to add to our Session and Deacons.
- ♥ Our CAT-Scan Committee is working hard to administer the Church Assessment Tool sometime this spring.

In addition to all of these wonderful happenings, Sam Guillermo is leading the effort for us to expand our ministry in ways that are nearly unimaginable. Sam and his Tech Committee, along with help of our Finance Committee, have purchased the necessary equipment for us to begin live-streaming our worship services once we begin meeting in the sanctuary. Just as God knows no boundaries, neither does our ministry. During the pandemic, we were able to worship virtually with friends from far away and our attendance numbers were higher than they had been before the pandemic. Live-streaming will enable this to continue. Look forward to a special presentation on this effort during the April 11th worship service. You will find out how you can be a part of expanding our ministry through live-streaming — it will take money, training, volunteers, and patience. An article from the Pew Research Center states that more people have found that their faith has strengthened during the pandemic (<https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2020/04/30/few-americans-say-their-house-of-worship-is-open-but-a-quarter-say-their-religious-faith-has-grown-amid-pandemic/>). How wonderful it will be for CCPC to provide multiples ways to harness that newly strengthened faith!

I encourage you to rejoice in the resurrection of Jesus Christ, to enjoy the beauty of springtime, and to live out your faith with your church family at CCPC.

Peace,
Pastor Susan

Welcome, Lillie!



As of April 5, 2021, Lillie Thomas II is the newest addition to the CCPC staff. With experience in technology and various forms of ministry, she leapt at the opportunity to lead and empower an impactful youth department in her local community. Teaching Sunday School, Bible studies, and starting a Bible club in high school was the start of her heavy involvement in ministry. As a founding member of student ministries on three Maryland college campuses, she partnered with other campus ministries, professors, and staff, promoted events, represented the organizations to the Student Government Association, and taught on evangelism and led prayer, facilitating the growth of the campus ministries and influencing students for Christ.

After earning her Master's degree from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County, Lillie assisted the Riverdale Ministries, including Mommies and Me, Youth Summer Camp, and English as a Second Language. She lent her experience and expertise in Bible studies to a Bowie congregation, training members to teach Bible studies and tracking the number of Bible studies taught by church members. Along with teaching and facilitating Bible studies, she's led small groups and Ladies Ministry.

Eventually, she returned to Baltimore to assist with the Youth and Outreach Ministries, as well as sing in the choir. While gaining professional experience in the Corporate Event Production Industry, Lillie prayerfully considered taking her ministry experience to the next level with CCPC as Ministry Associate and Director of Children and Youth Ministries. As a new addition to the team, Lillie looks forward to cultivating an environment for spiritual growth and close-knit community.



Holy Week

Schedule

Good Friday

April 2, 2021 at 7:00pm live on Facebook

Easter Sunrise Service

April 4, 2021 at 6:45am in the back parking lot

(Limited spaces. Registration required.)

Call 301-262-6008 or email ccpbowie@verizon.net Robin in the church office)

Easter Service

April 4, 2021 at 10:00am live on Facebook

Blossoming the Cross

Noon - 2 pm

Come out, participate, take pictures while blossoming the cross on Easter Sunday!

Flowers will be available or bring your own.

Sunday School age children will get an Easter goodie bag!

Please stay in your car and wait your turn, wear your masks, and maintain safe distancing during your visit. Hope to see you at the blossoming of the cross!

All live Facebook services are available at:

<https://www.facebook.com/ChristianCommunityPresbyterianChurch>

CCPC Work Day!

Building and Grounds is holding its Spring Work Day on Saturday April 10th, from 8:00 to 12:00. Those who wish to join us please bring a rake and wear a mask to enjoy the spring weather and long overdue fellowship.

Memorial Brick Ceremony!

The Memorial Brick Ceremony will be held in the Memorial Garden at Noon on Sunday, October 31.

The deadline for brick orders is Wednesday, June 30.

Please note this is a strict deadline and cannot be extended due to the process of ordering the bricks, getting them made, shipping, and set into the memorial walkway.

If you have any questions or need help in ordering a brick, please contact Robin in the church office at 301-262-6008 or ccpcbowie@verizon.net.

Support Group

"Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ."

~ Galatians 6:2 ~

Our Board of Deacons has decided to form a new support group to help us "carry each other's burdens." Pastor Susan will facilitate this group which will meet on the 2nd and 4th Fridays of each month at 2 p.m., on Zoom beginning on March 12th. Each group session will be strictly confidential, and will include devotional readings, prayer, sharing, fellowship, and encouragement. Please join us if you are in need of some extra support. Contact Pastor Susan or your deacon for more details. Here is the zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86760897581>

Meeting ID: 867 6089 7581

One tap mobile

+13017158592,,86760897581# US (Washington DC) +16465588656,,86760897581# US (New York)

Dial by your location: +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC) +1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86760897581>

Thank You!

Dear CCPC family and friends,

I would like to thank you for the cards, letters, visits, and prayers during my time of need. They mean a great deal to me.

God be with you,
Doris Kobe

Session Update

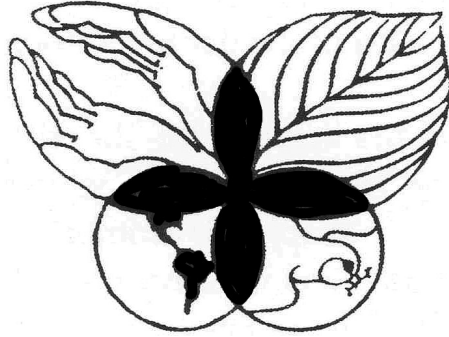
March 2021



- + The Personnel Committee is interviewing candidates for the Youth Ministry Associate position and hopes for a decision very soon.
- + Three people from All Saints Lutheran Church have joined the **Good White Racist** book discussion. A link to the **Emmitt Till Antilynching Law** was approved to be added to the church webpage.
- + Session voted that CCPC join **More Light Presbyterians**. More Light provides resources and support to churches seeking LGBTQ inclusiveness. Here is the More Light Mission Statement:
 - + “Following the risen Christ, and seeking to make the Church a true community of hospitality, the mission of More Light Presbyterians is to work for the full participation of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex, and asexual (LGBTQIA+) people in the life, ministry and witness of the Presbyterian Church (USA) and in society.”
- + The Outreach Committee is studying how to safely flower the cross for Easter. It is developing an outreach program for senior members of CCPC. The blood drives continue monthly in the church parking lot. Three elders volunteered to work on preparing the **Congregation Assessment Tool** (CAT scan), a requirement for seeking a new pastor. National Capital Presbytery will assign a facilitator to assist.
- + Offerings still lagged in February, so please remember to give. CCPC might qualify for the second round of PPP loans. Last year the Session approved \$27,000 to purchase equipment to upgrade CCPC’s capability to stream worship services once we return to live services. This will allow us to expand the reach of CCPC’s ministry. This month Session agreed to hold a capital fund drive to raise \$17,000 of that money (the remaining \$10,000 came from the operating budget). The fund drive will start after Easter.
- + Raises of 3.3% for Robin Seekford and Rick Osborne were approved, retroactive to the beginning of 2021. The Finance Committee was tasked with considering how to streamline purchasing by church staff.

PWOC News

**2021 Lifetime Honorary Membership
Deadline for nominations is April 11, 2021**



**Who do you think deserves recognition for
her faithful service of the church's work?**

Here's the [form](#), a downloadable pdf, also available through the CCPC [Women of the Church webpage](#). Download, save, fill it out and email it back to our [new](#) email address; see below! Or, simply print it and mail it to the church, or even just send your nomination in a simple email, if that's easiest!

Consider answering these questions to support your nomination:

- How has she helped to support the Bowie community by her service?
- How has she displayed her faith and relationship with God through her actions?
- What has she done to accomplish the work of CCPC?
- What traits does she display to lift others beyond their own limitations?

New! A PWOC Email Address!

Do you have questions or comments for your PWOC leaders? We've set up a new email address, to reach the current leaders: ccpcpwoc@gmail.com. We look forward to hearing from you!

Marty, Carrie and Peggy

Hello from Kentucky!



We continue to be grateful to shelter-in-place here in Louisville, Kentucky, while looking towards returning home to Malawi. Praise God for the blessing of being able to continue stay in an apartment on the Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary campus. We continue working here as we have been the past year, working by e-mail and "Zoom" meetings, and keeping in touch with colleagues in Malawi. We wanted to thank you for your continued prayers and care for our family and of our ministries in Malawi, Africa, over the past year. Please continue to pray for Malawi which has recently seen a surge in COVID-19 cases and discernment and wisdom for our family as we wait on returning to Malawi and for peace in this time of waiting.

Grace & Peace,

Tyler, Rochelle and Mphatso Holm
Mzuzu, Malawi
rochelle@rochelleholm.com

Processing Fees

Thank you to everyone who have generously contributed to the operations of the church over the last year. The last few years CCPC has experienced increasing use of the online donation options that are available on the website. However, there is some confusion as to how processing fees are calculated and if your contribution is subject to processing fees or not. I would like to clear any misunderstandings.

First, all online transactions are subject to processing fees. It is only the amount of the fee that changes depending on the type of transaction. A summary of the fees for credit card, automated clearinghouse (ACH) transactions, and direct checks follow.

CREDIT CARD TRANSACTION FEES:

The credit card processing fee is 2.75% of the value of the transaction plus 45 cents per transaction. A transaction occurs when the processing company processes your credit card payment. This means that if you contribute to multiple needs in one transaction while you are on-line, such as a tithe contribution and a per capita fee contribution, CCPC is only charged the transaction fee once (\$0.45). However, if you did your tithe in one transaction, and then a separate transaction for the per capita fees, CCPC is charged for two transactions (\$0.90). The credit card processing fees are assessed as each credit card transaction is processed. You are given an opportunity to make an additional contribution to off-set the processing fees with each transaction.

AUTOMATED CLEARING HOUSE (ACH) FEES:

In an ACH transaction, you authorize the payment processor to transfer funds from a bank account to CCPC. The ACH processing fee is 1.00% of the value of the transaction plus 45 cents per transaction. A transaction is when the processing company processes your ACH payment. This means that if you contribute to multiple needs in one transaction while you are on-line, such as to the tithe and per capita fee as discussed previously, CCPC is only charged the transaction fee once (\$0.45). Similarly, if you gave your tithe in one transaction, and then later in another transaction gave to the per capita fees, CCPC is charged for two transactions (\$0.90). CCPC is invoiced for the ACH fees at the end of each month. There is a line in the donation webpage that allows you to donate to off-set the ACH fees.

PERSONAL CHECKS AND BILL PAY:

CCPC does not incur any processing fees if you contribute with a personal check or through the bill-pay options at your bank. You can mail your personal check to the church with appropriate notation of where you desire your funds to be allocated. If you use bill pay your bank mails a check to CCPC for you, and you can have the bank include a memo to instruct how you want your funds allocated.

I hope this information is helpful. You can always reach me, Bill Radden-Lesage, CCPC Financial Secretary at 301-352-9582 or ccpcoline@aol.com



CCPC's Virtual Concert

Presents

Mark Jaster & Matthew Pauli

“Two Fools Split the Bill”

Sunday, April 11 at 4:00 pm

Two family-friendly clowning performances featuring Wingnut, a foolish carpenter and his musical misuse of tools, and Mr. Smudge, an average guy with bigger than average dreams as he prepares for a musical performance.

Details are on our events page on our website at ccpc.bowiemd.org



Puppet Ministry!

Puppets can sometimes reach children in ways that we adults cannot. Puppets have the power to free children's imaginations and take them to distant places and times, as well as teach important moral lessons.

I hope some of our grownups and teenagers might be interested in helping us expand this ministry. It does not require any acting ability—just the necessary time to learn how to make the puppets seem life-like. Best of all, it's a lot of fun once you get the hang of it!

We have begun our ministry with a series of easy skits that contain all of the spoken dialogue, sound effects and background music. The puppeteers only need to manipulate the puppets and be familiar enough with the dialogue to coordinate the puppets' mouth movements. If we could find six people and create three more teams, we could have a different puppet play every month for our CCPC children to enjoy!

If any of you are interested, or would like additional information about our puppet ministry, please don't hesitate to call or e-mail me. I really would enjoy the opportunity to discuss it with you!

Rick Osborne

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.

