

August 6, 2021 Christian Community Presbyterian Church Newsletter

Dear Friends,

I hope that your summer has been as enjoyable as mine. First off, thank you so much for all of the cards and messages that so many of you sent to me to celebrate my 60th birthday. I was so touched by your kindnesses. Transitional ministers do not always enjoy such thoughtfulness from church folks -- I truly appreciated it.

This summer brought another momentous birthday in my family -- my youngest son Carter turned 21. It hardly seems possible! We celebrated with visits from friends and family, boat rides on the bay, cakes from the local bakery, and lots and lots of laughter. It was good.

However, I have to say that nothing has brought me more joy this summer than being able to celebrate in-person worship with you! How amazing it has been to finally meet so many of you, to hear sacred music together, to pray together, to celebrate the sacraments together, to proclaim the Word together, and to have our on-line streaming service up and running. We have been worshipping with close to 200 people every Sunday -- between 75 and 100 in person, and between 125 and 150 on-line. Shout-out to all of the ushers, tech team members, elders, staff people, and volunteers who have made this possible: Thank you!

As I am sure you know, we have to look toward autumn with a bit of uncertainty. COVID-19 and it's variants are still a factor in our community. But we are moving forward in hope with many wonderful plans: a back-to-school Sunday, a Blessing of the Animals service, expanding our contemporary music ministry, resuming in-person concerts, renewing mission efforts, interpreting the church assessment tool survey, and welcoming new members. The days may begin to get darker, but God's light is still shining bright. God is good and God is at work at CCPC!

Peace, Pastor Susan

New Clerk-of-Session

Judyann Glazner has volunteered to become our new clerk-of-session. We are thankful that Judyann is able to serve God and CCPC in this important way. We are also thankful for the dedication and excellent work of former clerk-of-session, Paula Hays.

A Service of Witness to the Resurrection for Reverend James Brassard



A Service of the Witness to the Resurrection for Reverend James Brassard will be held at the

National Presbyterian Church, on Saturday, October 30, at 10 am

Reverend James was a beloved pastor for many years at CCPC. All are welcome to honor and celebrate his life.

The church is located at <u>4101 Nebraska Avenue NW</u>, in Washington, DC. A reception will follow the service.



Celebration of Life for

Effie Grubb

A Memorial Service for beloved long-time CCPC member Effie Grubb will be on Thursday, September 9 4pm to 6 pm Elks Lodge (1506 Defense Highway, Gambrills).



Offering Envelopes for 2022

CCPC will provide offering envelops for calendar year 2022 only to those who express their desire to have them. For many years CCPC has used preprinted offering envelopes for collection of your weekly offering. There was an envelope for each week, and some for special offerings, and each envelope with your own "envelope number". For calendar year 2021, CCPC ordered two hundred boxes of preprinted offering envelopes at a cost of about \$900, or \$4.50 per box. Of the offering envelope boxes order for 2021, only about 30 were distributed. This then makes the cost of a distributed box of offering envelopes \$30, while 170 boxes of envelopes are never used.

Times have change due to increased computer usage during the pandemic. Electronic payments to CCPC for offerings are now widely accepted and used by the congregation. Currently about two thirds of all offerings arrive electronically. Offerings also continue to regularly arrive by U.S. Mail or as direct payments from your checking account. Only about half the personal checks arrive enclosed in an offering envelope.

The Finance Committee wants everyone who desire offering envelops to continue to have them. At the same time, we do not want to put 170 boxes of offering envelopes into recycle at the end of the year. History shows that a change is needed. Therefore, we ask for your understanding as CCPC adjusts the process of providing offering envelopes for calendar year 2022.

To save money and reduce waste, CCPC will make your offering envelopes for calendar 2022 to order. We have devised a system to provide you with offering envelopes for 2022 that will have comparable functionality with a little different appearance. Anyone can now have offering envelopes. The general offing envelopes by default will be structured for weekly giving, but if you prefer your offering envelopes can be structured for monthly, bimonthly, or quarterly giving. Just let us know when you order. Offering envelopes will continue to be offered at no cost to you. All we need is your name and preferred gifting interval.

We need to know who desires offering envelopes for 2022 so we can make some expressly for you. You will not receive offering envelopes unless you order them. You can order offering envelopes at any time during the year, but if you want to have your offering envelopes in time for the New Year, we need your order by November 1, 2021.

To order your calendar 2022 offering envelopes you can do any of the below:

- Call the CCPC office at 301-262-6008;
- Enclose a note requesting 2022 offering envelops with your current offering;
- Write to the CCPC, attn. Financial Secretary, that you wish to have 2022 offering envelopes;
- Email the Financial Secretary at <u>ccpconline@yahoo.com</u>;
- Email the CCPC Office Administrator at <u>ccpcbowie@verizon.net</u>.

Staff Meetings

Please note that the time for staff meetings have changed. They will continue to be on Tuesdays, but will now start at 2pm.

Race & Diversity

Matthew 25 Book Book Discussion Club

Resumes this Friday evening, August 6, 2021, at 6:30PM via Zoom Led by Ann Fleming and Dennis Evans

Microaggressions In Ministry

(by Sanders and Yarber)

Will address big and small changes we can consider making to be more welcoming to people from marginalized communities.

All are welcome - whether or not you have read the book!

Book can be purchased online via PCUSA.

Three sessions: 8/6/, 13 and 20

Details are also on: Race & Diversity's Book Discussion web page

Calling All Musicians & Singers!

Love to praise the Lord with music and song? Want to be a part of growing our contemporary music ministry? Well, CCPC is bringing back the band and we would love to see all our musicians of any instrument and singers of any voice range to attend an informational meeting **Thursday, August 26, at 7:30 pm** on Zoom. Let's make some joyful noise!

Microaggressions

in Ministry

CODY J. SANDERS & ANGELA YARBER

Zoom: <u>https://us02web.zoom.us/</u> j/89793676355



The Caller

If you would prefer to receive this newsletter via email, please let CCPC's office administrator, Robin, know by emailing her at <u>ccpcbowie@verizon.net</u> or by calling her at 301-262-6008.

The Caller goes out on the first Friday of every month. All articles should be submitted by the Tuesday morning before the first Friday of the month.

If you have any questions, please contact Robin in the church office.

Need Stamps?

Just a friendly reminder that stamps are going up. The following is from the USPS website:

When will the change take place? The change is expected to take effect August 29, 2021, if approved by the PRC.

What is the cost of a new Forever stamp if the change is approved?

If favorably reviewed by the PRC, the new prices will include a 3-cent increase in the price of an FCM Forever stamp, from 55 cents to 58 cents.

Are the rates changing for international stamps?

The price for international stamps will increase by a dime, from \$1.20 to \$1.30.

Flower Sign Up!



The flower committee invites everyone to signup for the weekly altar flowers in memory, honor, or celebration of your loved one. The signup sheet is in the atrium on the closet door before going into the Dodds Hall side of the building. Flowers are \$30.00 and will be arranged by the flower committee. Please signup by the Wednesday before the Sunday you would like the flowers on the altar. If you have any questions, please contact Judyann Glazener.

Handbells, Handbells, Handbells!

Twelve months ago, our "Covid bell ensemble" began as a duo and gradually grew into a septet by this Spring. Clinquant, our adult handbell choir, is now back in nearly "full force." We look forward to participating on a regular basis in both the Sunday morning "live" services and the Facebook "virtual" services! It is our goal to provide special music at least once a month. At this time we have <u>three vacant positions</u> which we would like to fill as soon as possible. While the ability to read music is desirable, it is not a prerequisite. If you can keep a steady beat and count to four, you just passed the audition! We rehearse at a socially safe distance on Wednesday evenings, 7:30-8:45. If you are interested, please contact Rick Osborne.



Children's Handbell Choir!

Beginning in September, the Children's Handbell Choir will resume rehearsals on Sunday mornings immediately following the 10:00 a.m. worship service. These rehearsals will take place at a socially safe distance in Dodd's Hall. Children age 5-12 are welcome to join us! If you have a child who is interested, please contact Rick Osborne.

National Capital Presbytery Learning Labs

National Capital Presbytery learning labs are an opportunity for anyone in the Presbytery - clergy or laypeople - to engage with an online Learning Lab led by members of the Convergence Team and invited guests to explore critical topics in ministry.

These will be held at 12:30 pm the fourth Thursday of each month. There will be presentations, breakout groups, exercises, and opportunities for Q & A. These Labs will be recorded and edited and placed on our FaithLead.org Learning Platform so that anyone not able to access them live or who would like to go back and review them can do so on-demand and without cost.

Dates are subject to change, follow our IG @ncpandfriends for any updates! The registration site will also contain recordings of each Lab for access after the live event. Register here: <u>https://faithlead.org/p/learninglabs-ncp</u>

The current curriculum for these Labs is as follows:

- + Learning Lab 4: How to BuildLearning Lab 5: Marketing for Ministry: What you need to know as a Local Church Leader Anna Golladay September 23
- + Learning Lab 6: Family Systems and Conflict Transformation -Cameron Trimble October 28
- + Learning Lab 7: How to Turn Your Church into a Community Hub for Social Innovation & Neighborhood Economic Revitalization – Anna Golladay – (TBD)
- + Learning Lab 8: Leading from the Future: Emergence Leadership for The Sake of the Church Cameron Trimble (TBD)
- + Learning Lab 9: Coaching Skills for Church Leaders (TBD)

I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my loving eye on you.

 \sim Isalm 32:8 \sim

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 info@belaircoop.org

www.belaircoop.org



AN



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.