



# The Caller

July 15, 2013

CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

**C**hildren of Eden was a great success. I am still walking around singing the songs. My favorite as a Dad is "The hardest part of love..." and I find myself dancing around like Mama Noah played by Katie Bogdan singing "Ain't it good...to see the sun shine again." It helps me handle the daily thunderstorms. I was amazed at the technical quality of the show: sound, lighting, sets, and make up. Of course, the depth and the quality of the performers were outstanding. People who had seen this play done elsewhere marveled at the live music provided by the band. My brother Daniel, and his wife, Sabrina, who have watched all the CCPC Theatre productions since I moved here nine years ago, attended the Sunday performance. My brother said that on the ride home their kids (ages 8-13) initiated a lively and far reaching discussion on the nature and character of God. Kudos to Linda and Susan and all the other volunteers who made this a magical weekend. As a side benefit, the role of Father (God) played by Barry Miller has worn off in his hitting for the CCPC softball team. Barry hit two towering home runs in our playoff win.

On a less dynamic note, the new church boards had their initial meetings. There were no major Session agenda items to discuss. We spent time organizing ourselves and doing some training. We use a consent agenda and committee chairs approve spending through a voucher system. The Session elected Jim Woods to serve as Clerk.

Cyd Radden-Le Sage will again serve as chair of the Finance Council and as the President of the Corporation. Cyd presented a proposal that will enable members to pay their pledges through their online banking accounts. We will be testing the process in late July. You can use this account to make your donations starting August 1. Details and account number will be in the next newsletter. Several members have requested this service. For you old fashioned folks like me, **we can still make our contributions by cash or check** during the offering.

In advance of the fall officers retreat to be held on September 27 and 28, the Session and Board of Deacons are reading Rev. Henry Brinton's book on hospitality, "The Welcoming Congregation." Rev. Brinton will be our retreat leader.

The Board of Deacons elected Astrid Jonas to be the moderator for the next year. Astrid has previously served on both the Session and the Board of Deacons. She brings a lot of experience and energy to the post. The Deacons reelected Sue Evans as vice-moderator and Evonne Tang to serve as Board secretary. The Deacons are hosting Cluster Gatherings again this summer. Please try to make one of these fellowship events. As they say, good fun and a good time always happen when God's people get together to break bread.

In another action, the Session appointed five members to serve on a committee to explore mission initiatives to be housed and operated out of the part of the CE building that is being vacated by the Bowie Food Pantry. Yes it is true. The Pantry will be relocated to its new headquarters at the Kenhill Center (the Old City hall). The City of Bowie has made the portable trailers located behind the Kenhill Center available to

the Pantry. These portable buildings previously housed the Bowie Police Department. The Pantry will begin moving on or around August 1. We will be letting you know how you can help them move shelves and equipment.

If you would like to help us discern suitable **mission initiatives for the CE Building**, please email the Committee Chair Susan Brutout at Brutout2004@verizon.net. The Session members of the committee are John Backus and Susan Brutout from the Mission council, Mary Lou Chappell (Outreach), Cyd Rad-den Le Sage (Finance) and Paul Sell (Building and Grounds). Ideas for outreach ministries are already abuzz. ESL classes (English as a Second language). A service to deliver food to shut-ins and disabled folks. A ministry to offer free interior housing repairs (a hybrid Habitat for Humanity and Christmas in April program) to needy seniors that would enable them to age in place in their homes. Bring your ideas and your passion to this group. A first meeting date will be announced soon.

Finally, the Hospitality Committee, which is a part of the Outreach and Parish Life Committee, has asked that **"Name Tag Sunday" be extended to every Sunday** starting this coming Sunday. We would ask that you do two things. Greet each other by name AND during the passing of the peace, greet at least one person you don't know or have not spoken to in awhile.

Remember this: the Lord is good all the time.

Grace and peace,

James Brassard

## *Worship Notes*

**July 21st:** In Amos 8:1-12 the Old Testament prophet Amos offers up some devastating predictions of God bringing judgment to the people of Israel. Beneath the scary images of nature devouring the people, we find the prophet asking us a jarring question: What would a world without God's word look like?

**July 28th:** In Luke 11:1—13, Jesus is asked about prayer. Prayer is not only at the heart of the Christian life, it is also at the heart of Christian frustration, misunderstanding, and even pain. How does God answer prayers? Why does God sometimes seem to ignore my prayers? We will explore some of these questions.



The next newsletter will be available around August 1st.  
**All articles are due by 9 AM Wednesday, July 24th.**  
Any questions, please contact the church office at 301-262-6008.  
Thank you!

# DEACON'S CORNER

This is the 30th in a series of articles about living well by considering the host of things we can change in our lives, our homes and our surroundings that can make our lives healthier, happier, and safer. Special thanks to Joy Bible, former Moderator of the Board of Deacons, for sharing her wisdom and expertise through the Deacon's Corner. We will be preparing a complete set of Deacon's Corner articles to share with CCPC.

What are the qualities we look for in others? One answer that almost always comes up is "a sense of humor." "Someone who is positive." We like being around happy, optimistic and light-hearted people. One study found that children reared in an optimistic, laughter-filled home tended to be less nervous or fearful, more sociable and energetic. Also noted in the study was that experiencing joy and other positive emotions can inspire us to do wonderful things in life, such as raise a child, cooperate with one's team, or help someone in need. Research shows that "joyful, engaged individuals are better able to thrive and build positive bonds with others, especially compared to people who are dejected or depressed." Although many people believe that happiness is directly related to good health and this correlation has been confirmed as significant in lots of studies, it does not mean that happiness is the *direct cause* of good health.

Positive emotions, such as being optimistic, happy, joyful, are a choice. Just as we choose to believe in our faith, we choose optimism. How difficult is it to be around people who constantly choose the negative? It's like the news today and we begin to believe, like Chicken Little, "The sky is falling." We say: *I can't. I won't. That's a problem. It's stupid. It won't work. It's too hard. I'm not good enough. We never did that before. This is a drag!* The wonderful thing about choices is we can choose the positive. Choosing the positive can be very empowering: *I can. It's possible. I'll give it a try. It will work. I am able to do this. This will be fun!*

The Book of Hebrews talks about running the race, leaving the things behind that drag you down and encumber you. In our lives, we need to let go of negative thoughts and train ourselves to focus on positive outcomes. With the right attitude, even the stumbling blocks can become stepping stones or learning tools. One of the main ingredients in a positive life is lots of laughter. It is good medicine and stimulates our whole body. Laughter has healing qualities and exercises our facial muscles. Laugh lines are more attractive than frown lines! Helen Keller said, "Optimism is the faith that leads to achievement. Nothing can be done without hope and confidence." I have an old saying on my kitchen cabinet that I believe to this day. It says, "A good laugh is as good as a prayer sometimes." I think it is good for the soul. So smile, chuckle, giggle, laugh out loud. For as you travel through life, whatever your goal, keep your eye on the doughnut and not on the hole.



## **Cluster Gatherings**

Clusters meeting in Dodds Hall after church are:

Clusters 5, 11, and 13 will meet on August 4th

Clusters 2 and 12 will meet on August 11th

Clusters 3, 8, 14, and 15 will meet on August 18th

Clusters not meeting at the church are:

Clusters 1, 6, and 7 will meet at Peggy Oates's home on July 28 after church.

### **Who is your deacon?**

Cluster One	Nancy Honeyford
Cluster Two:	Kerryaine Hiller
Cluster Three:	Evonne Tang
Cluster Four:	Betty Haeussler
Cluster Five:	Chris Campbell
Cluster Six:	Peggy Oates
Cluster Seven:	Melodie Dziduch
Cluster Eight:	Joe Love
Cluster Nine:	Daniel Casto
Cluster Ten:	Sue Evans
Cluster Eleven:	Astrid Jonas
Cluster Twelve:	Judyann Glazener Feinstein
Cluster Thirteen:	John Butler
Cluster Fourteen:	Shirley Cooke
Cluster Fifteen:	Lillian Cates

### **Who else is in my cluster?**

Cluster lists are available in the Atrium. Please pick one up and add it to your directory. If you need a directory, please let Margaret Hallau know and she'll get you one.

Clusters change over time as new members and friends are added or incoming deacons replace outgoing deacons. If you have a question about Clusters, Margaret Hallau has that information.

## **Nametags**

Ever wonder who someone is and wish they had a nametag — but it's not the first Sunday of the month when we wear our nametags? Based on discussions with several newer members and a discussion at the recent Session meeting, the Hospitality Committee is recommending that we wear our name tags each Sunday.

There will also be blanks available for visitors.

This is an opportunity for us to greet people we don't know.



## *In Memoriam*

Fred Beck, a long time member of CCPC, died peacefully at his home on June 27th. Fred's ashes will be dispersed in the Memorial Garden at a future date. Fred will join ashes with his sons, Andrew and James, and his mother as their ashes were previously placed in the Memorial Garden. Our thoughts and prayers are with the Beck family.



## *Births*

Helen Bujac's granddaughter, Meredith, gave birth to  
*Piper Lindsay Bujac*

Piper was born on July 3rd at 6:31 AM at the Anne Arundel Medical Center, weighing in at 5 lbs, 14 oz., and 18-1/2" in length. Mother Meredith, father Brett, and baby Piper are doing well. Congratulations to the Bujac family!

Sarah and Ryan Hash are the proud new parents of  
*Nolan James Hash*

Proud grandparents are Anita and Mark Pesses and Dianna and Mike Hash. Congratulations to the Pesses and Hash families!



## *Surprised by Prayer*

Patti Cable recently learned of the website called  
Surprised by Prayer  
at:

[www.surprisedbyprayer.com/military](http://www.surprisedbyprayer.com/military)

It is a place where people can post prayers for those serving in the military. The military members can then read the prayers before going into combat or simply use them for comfort.

Thanks for sharing, Patti!



## *Birthdays*

Helen will be celebrating her 92nd birthday on July 31st. Happy Birthday, Helen!!

Frank Sumner will be celebrating his 95th birthday on July 17th.

Happy Birthday, Frank!!

## *Wedding Anniversaries*

*Helen and Gene Bujac* celebrated their

72nd wedding anniversary on July 3rd.

Congratulations, Helen and Gene!

Your CCPC family and friends wish you many more happy years together!

Join in the celebration of

*Marian and Roy Kaiser's*

75<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on July 25!

For those of you who remember the Kaiser's, we are hoping as the date draws near that you will send a card congratulating them. Every greeting, memory, or photo you share with them will be treasured. Large print would be appreciated.

Their address is:

2956 152<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, NE, #279

Redmond, Washington 98052

Marian's phone number is 425-284-3979

Marian is 96 years old and Roy is 97.

They live in the Overlake Terrace assisted living facility, but due to medical issues, they live on

different floors. Marian's daily visits to Roy are a highlight for them both.

Best wishes to Marian and Roy!

## *Time and Talent* **Survey Update**

Our Time and Talent surveys provide Session with information about areas where people who worship at CCPC are interested in using their gifts. Thank you to each of the more than 80 people who completed the surveys!

Special thanks to Don Genson for his analysis and the spreadsheets for each area. Session has received copies of the results and will be using them as they plan for the fall. If you expressed an interest or needed more information, you should expect to hear from a member of Session over the next several months. For questions, please contact Jim Woods at [jpwoodsIII@verizon.net](mailto:jpwoodsIII@verizon.net) or 410-672-8944.

## Help Wanted!

The Mission Committee is looking for a new Warm Nights Coordinator. This can be one person or a committee of a few people who divide up the duties. The first task is to attend the kick off meeting for all of the church coordinators hosted by CCSi. This usually takes place in late October or early November. The next task includes putting out the sign-up sheets in late December, drafting some Caller articles about our upcoming week, and making a few announcements during service. The busiest time is during the week we host the program, which will be January 19<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> in 2014. This is when a small committee would be very useful. Some should come to the church each night to make sure everything is going smoothly. The duties include making sure the dinner crew and overnight hosts have arrived as scheduled, checking with the Shelter Manager to see how many guest we will have for the night, making sure someone prepared the lunches for the next day, and verifying that arrangements have been made for breakfast the next morning.



If you have additional questions about the program, please contact Paul Sell.

## Annual CCPC Crab Feast!

When: Sunday, August 25th from 1 to 4 PM

Where: Bowie Whitemarsh Park in the Large Pavillion

Cost: \$25 for adults eating crabs, \$10 for children under 12 or adults not eating crabs, and free for children under five years of age

All you can eat steamed crabs or a crab cake, grilled chicken, and corn on the cob. Bring your own drinks, utensils, and side dishes.

For more information, please contact Barbara Engh at [bengh1@verizon.net](mailto:bengh1@verizon.net) or 301-464-4347.

Hope to see you there!



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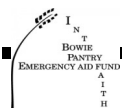
# Christian Community Presbyterian Church



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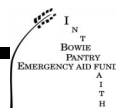
CCPC, the first Protestant church in Levitt Bowie, was born from a passion for Christian mission in the local community, and this focus continues.

*Our Mission: To worship God, to grow in faith and community,  
and to place our gifts in the service of Jesus Christ.*



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## Bowie Interfaith Pantry



Open for distribution and service 9 AM-11 AM on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.  
We are closed on holidays.

Located at: Christian Community Presbyterian Church  
(in the Education Building at the rear of the parking lot)  
3120 Belair Drive — Bowie MD 20715

**Visit our website:** [www.bowiefoodpantry.org](http://www.bowiefoodpantry.org)

**E-mail us:** [BowieFoodPantry@gmail.com](mailto:BowieFoodPantry@gmail.com) **Phone:** 301-262-6765

*Thank you for your continued support!*

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## 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](http://www.ImagineThePlace.com), call 443-510-6308, or e-mail [Ann@ImagineThePlace.com](mailto:Ann@ImagineThePlace.com). Scholarships available.



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## 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](mailto:info@belaircoop.org)

[www.belaircoop.org](http://www.belaircoop.org)

