



The Caller

November 1, 2013

The number of American households with children continues to decline from nearly 60% in the early 60's to fewer than 45% today. Meanwhile, the rate of pet ownership has risen in recent decades to historic highs. Surveys indicate about 40% of American households include a dog, far and away our country's most beloved pet. Bowie has 56,000 human residents and 24,000 dogs and cats. My informal survey suggests cats outnumber dogs in CCPC households. Some dog owners' passion for the care of their pets equals or even surpasses the devotion given to children. People are more likely to carry pictures of their dogs in their wallets than pictures of their children. I remember a Facebook post about the two new family dogs tearing up the new furniture in the living room and then eating the Thanksgiving turkey as it sat cooling on the countertop. The family was dismayed but thought it funny. I asked myself: would they be so understanding if their 5-year-old son did the same thing?

To accommodate pet lovers, thousands of American churches offer annual "Blessing of the Animals" services. They are usually held on the weekend closest to the Festival of St. Francis of Assisi who was known for his love of animals. A few churches have weekly pet inclusive midweek services called "Paws and Prayers." The photos from these services are amazing. Leashed dogs sit snuggled up to their masters while an offering plate that includes dog biscuits is passed around, and ministers keep the service going through moments of barking.

Several years ago, an organization in Bowie was formed to advocate for citizens who have dogs and cats. Aware that economic hardships were causing dog and cat owners to give up

their pets, Bowie CLAW (Citizens for Local Animal Welfare) established a program that collected and distributed food to needy pet owners in a service called the Pet Assistance Program. Bowie CLAW gets donations of pet food and other supplies at 12 donation sites around town. This organization was storing these supplies in the old Bowie marketplace shopping center. For many reasons this was a less than desirable location.

When the Bowie Food Pantry moved to their new location behind the Kenhill Center, they no longer had need for the food storage shed located next to our building. This shed is insulated and climate controlled. The Mission Council was approached by Bowie CLAW member Jo Bolig about using it to store pet supplies for the Bowie CLAW. The Session agreed. So, on Saturday November 9 at 2 PM we will hold a "Blessing of the Shed" service to pass over the shed to Bowie CLAW.

I know how much companionship pets provide to our families. I was thrilled to visit my grand dog Puma at my daughter's house in Minneapolis two weeks ago. Since she returned to Minneapolis, I have lost touch with the neighbors in the Rockledge section because I no longer make the 1.1 mile loop twice a day.

It is a pleasure to associate with Bowie CLAW and the many pet owners in town. Bowie CLAW will have a booth at the Christmas Market this Sunday, November 3.

Grace and peace,

James Brassard



Worship Notes

November 3: Celebrating *All Saints Day* with communion and a reading of the names of CCPC friends and loved ones who have joined the Church Triumphant in the past year. If you want someone's name included, e-mail James at ccpcpastor@verizon.net. During the service, we will be **Dedicating the Memorial Bricks** that have been installed since the last Brick Dedication service in September 2012. Following the worship service, we invite family members to take a "Memory Walk" through the garden. The sermon is on Luke 6:20-36, where Jesus commands his followers to do four things every week: love, do good, bless, and pray. He concludes this sermon on the plain with the Golden Rule. The sermon is titled, "Rules for Living: Golden and Silver."

This will be the Eighth Annual Brick Dedication event. 120 individuals have bricks memorializing their lives. I want to thank the **Memorial Committee** consisting of Patty Adams (who updates the plaques in the Atrium with the names of individuals whose ashes have been dispersed in the Memorial Garden), Marilyn Aquilina (who does the calligraphy in the Memorial Book), and Cal and Lois Pals (who are in charge of record keeping). We are grateful to Anne and Bob Shelby for the loving stewardship of all the flowers and plants in the garden, and the laying of the bricks in the walkway.



November Sunday Calendar

Sunday, November 3, 2013

Fall Back – Don't Forget to Turn Your Clocks Back!
9:00 AM Christmas Gift Market -- Dodds Hall
8:30 AM Chapel Worship Service -- Sanctuary
10:00 AM Worship w/ Communion & Memorial Brick Ceremony -- Sanctuary
10:30 AM Sunday School: Cradle Roll through 5th Grade
11:15 AM Adult Ed: Lyme Disease -- Adult Ed Conf Rm
1:30 PM Prayer/Study Group -- Parlor
2:00 PM Martie Harris Piano Recital -- Sanctuary and Dodds Hall
6:30 PM Junior High Youth Group -- Jr. High Room

Sunday, November 10, 2013

Christmas Families Child Adoptions Sign Up Begins
8:30 AM Chapel Worship Service -- Sanctuary
10:00 AM Worship -- Sanctuary
10:30 AM Sunday Morning Connect: Jr. and Sr. High
10:30 AM Sunday School: Cradle Roll through 5th Grade
11:15 AM Confirmation Class -- Pastor's Office
11:15 AM Adult Ed: Lyme Disease -- Adult Ed Conf Rm
6:30 PM Discovery Circle -- Parlor
6:30 PM Junior High Youth Group -- Jr. High Room

Sunday, November 17, 2013

8:30 AM Chapel Worship Service -- Sanctuary
10:00 AM Worship -- Sanctuary
10:30 AM Sunday Morning Connect: Jr. and Sr. High
10:30 AM Sunday School: Cradle Roll through 5th Grade
11:15 AM Confirmation Class -- Pastor's Office
1:30 PM Prayer Study -- Parlor
6:30 PM Junior High Youth Group -- Jr. High Room

Sunday, November 24, 2013

8:30 AM Chapel Worship Service -- Sanctuary
10:00 AM Worship -- Sanctuary
10:30 AM Sunday Morning Connect: Jr. and Sr. High
10:30 AM Sunday School: Cradle Roll through 5th Grade
6:30 PM Junior High Youth Group -- Jr. High Room

Births

Welcome *Jameeli Grace Alldredge*, born on September 30, 2013.

Congratulations to her parents Jennifer and Ramzi Alldredge and her big brother Maleck!
And, congratulations to proud grandmother, Margaret Levitan!

Engagements

Lynn de Seve shares the good news of her son, Christian, who is engaged to Dina Alega.
Congratulations *Christian and Dina*!

Deaths

Shirley Cook's mother, *Julie Sorbello*, died suddenly on October 21, 2013 at her home.
Family and friends celebrated her life on October 26 at 11 AM at Sacred Heart Chapel.
She will be buried at Arlington National Cemetery at a later date.
Our thoughts and prayers are with Shirley and her family.

Edward Jenkins died on Sunday, October 6, 2013. He was buried with full military honors
at Cheltenham National Cemetery on Tuesday, October 15 at 10 AM.
Our thoughts and prayers are with the Jenkins family.



Interfaith *Thanksgiving Eve* **Worship Service**



The Interfaith Council of Suburban Maryland will sponsor a Thanksgiving Eve service on
Wednesday, November 27 at 7:30 PM at Temple Solel 2901 Mitchellville Rd in Bowie.

The theme for this year's service, which takes place on Thanksgiving Eve and the first night
of Hannukah is *Dedication through Education* and the guest speaker is Dr. Kevin Maxwell,
CEO of the Prince George's County School system.

Come at 6:30 PM to sing in the interfaith choir. An offering of monies and staple goods will
be taken for the Bowie Interfaith Food Pantry.



Christmas Families

Kickoff



Christmas Families 2013 will be kicking off on Sunday, November 10

Christmas Families is our annual community outreach where we receive referrals from the Prince George's County Public Schools and the Bowie Interfaith Food Pantry of children in need of a little help at Christmas time. We "adopt" the children (ages infant through grade 12) and provide them with an outfit of clothing (top and pair of pants) and a toy or fun gift. We also provide a replenishment of school supplies for the elementary school age children, and groceries to provide a traditional Christmas dinner and some extras to carry the family through about one week.

Look for the sign up table in Dodds Hall before and after the 10:00 am service (beginning November 10) so you can select the children you want to sponsor. We'll also have sign up sheets for other volunteer opportunities.

The schedule and important dates to remember are:

Date	Time	Event
Nov 10		Child Adoptions Signups Begin
Dec 1 – 12		Early Gift Drop Off in Library (ID # and Name on All Gifts Please)
Dec 11	9 pm to 10 pm	Setup Dodds Hall for Gift Sorting and Wrapping
Dec 12	9 am to 5 pm	Sort and Check Gifts
	By 6 pm	Gifts Due – Final Deadline for Gift Drop Off
	6 pm to 9 pm	Sort and Check Gifts continued
Dec 13	9 am to 3 pm	Gift Wrapping (Bring your own scissors, tape, and pen)
	2 pm	Pickup Non-perishable Food Order at Aldi's
	4 pm to 10 pm	Gift Wrapping continued (Bring your own scissors, tape, and pen)
Dec 14	9 am to 5 pm	Gift Wrapping continued (Bring your own scissors, tape, and pen)
	7 pm to 9 pm	Reset Dodds Hall for Food Sorting (Time is approximate)
Dec 15	Noon to 3 pm	Food Sorting
	3 pm to 6 pm	Food and Gift Matching
Dec 16	7 am to 8 am	Pickup Perishable Food Order at Aldi's
	9 am to 1 pm	Family Pickup/Delivery
	6 pm to 9 pm	Family Pickup/Delivery

If you're interested in helping, but still not sure how you fit in, please see me on Sunday or give me a call at 240-731-0683 or email at roglojo@gmail.com.

Thanks for your support of Christmas Families 2013!

Roxanne Johnson, Christmas Families Coordinator

Christmas Gift Market

The Christmas Gift Market is coming to CCPC on November 3 from 9 am to noon.

Give a gift that cares - your gift donation in honor of family members, co-workers, or neighbors will change a life. We have mission projects from our community of Bowie to as far away as East Africa.

New Missions This Year!

❖Chilumbuso - (meaning remembrance) will have a table displaying hand crochet bags made out of recycled plastic bags.

❖East Africa Ministries will also have items to purchase from handmade jewelry to trinket boxes.

❖Bowie CLAW is our new local mission where your donation provides routine medical care for pets. Many elderly pet owners need our help to keep their pets rather than surrender them to our overcrowded shelters.

And, we have many more mission opportunities — a total of 14 this year.

So, bring your neighbors, bring your check book, and stay for some homemade soup (Suggested soup donation of \$3, which will go to Hospice)



Christmas Families **School Supply Update**

We hit our target for all of the school supplies!!

Thank You All so much for your generous donations!

You have made it possible for our 200 children from our Christmas Families program to receive school supply replenishment packs.

If you would like more information on our Christmas Families program, please contact Roxanne Johnson.



Covenant Circle

The Covenant Circle is a group of seniors that have a strong network of caring relationships. They enjoy time together, sharing and growing, and welcoming new members.

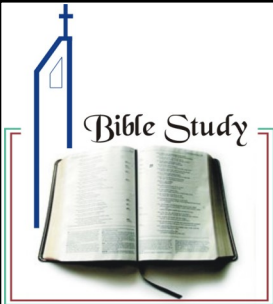
The circle meets the second Monday of each month at 10 AM in the Parlor.

But, November and December have changes to dates and/or location. See below:

Since Monday, November 11 is a holiday, the circle will meet on Tuesday, November 12 at Sarah Hyde's home at Pin Oaks Village 16010 Excalibur Road #B407 in Bowie. Her phone number is 301-262-6819.

The December 9 meeting will be held at Sylvia Dunlap's home at 2417 Kelford Lane in Bowie. Her phone number is 301-262-6126.

All are welcome to join this circle! If you are interested, please contact Sarah Hyde.



Small Group Bible Study

Don't try to figure out everything on your own. Listen for God's voice in everything you do, everywhere you go. He's the one who will keep you on track. Run to God!
Proverbs 16:9

How do you know what God wants you to do? He offers us a combination of divine and human guidance. We can seek guidance by starting with the Scriptures. The Bible offers teaching, instructions, stories, and wisdom. Reading and sharing His word with others gives us the guidance, insight, and maybe some strength of faith in that shared experience.

No matter how many ways you seek God's guidance, we need to trust that His voice will speak to us. Listen to God's Word, the wisdom of friends, your own analysis, and your heart. Really good things come out of a shared experience of studying The Word together.

If you are interested in joining or starting a small group Bible study, please call Jim Woods at 410-672-8944 or e-mail him at jpwoods111@verizon.net.



Adult Education Class Lyme Disease

The first session on Sunday, November 3 will feature the award-winning documentary *Under Our Skin*.

This documentary is 104 minutes long so plan to stay late during this first session.

The second session on Sunday, November 10, Marilee Neff and Lara Pease Parreira will describe their personal experiences and address what is happening now with efforts to deal with this debilitating disease.

We hope you will join us for the documentary and the informative discussion.

Tiger Lilies

The Tiger Lilies are an evening book group for women. Members of the group select books to read, study, and discuss together. They meet on the first and third Monday evenings at 7:30 PM in the Parlor from September through May. **They will not be meeting the third Monday in November or December.**

New members are always welcome! If you are interested in joining this group, please contact Andrea Brassard at andreabrassard@verizon.net or 301-352-0075.



Next Caller will be sent out on November 15. Deadline for articles is 9 AM Friday, November 8. Questions, please call the office.



Fundraisers

Giant Cards

Each month, the CCPC Youth Ministry runs a great fundraiser we call Giant Cards. Many of you already support this fundraiser, but this notice is for those who aren't aware of it. Every second Sunday of the month, someone from the Youth Ministry will be in the CCPC Atrium before and after church to collect checks from those wishing to buy Giant gift cards. It works just like purchasing a Giant gift card at the check-out line. You can purchase a card at face-value amount to buy your groceries. How is this a fundraiser? Since this is up front money for Giant, Giant returns to CCPC Youth Ministry five percent of the total amount collected, and 100% of that money goes towards Youth conferences and retreats. Then, on the third Sunday of the month, Youth Ministry will be in the CCPC Atrium before and after church to distribute the Giant cards you purchased. The cards can be purchased in \$25, \$50, \$100, or more increments. If you have any questions, please contact Debbie Armstrong at debbie.armstrong@dbr.com, Rhia Miller at ccpcyouth15@gmail.com, or Kristen Zacheis at kristen.zacheis@gmail.com. If you already shop at Giant, this is a really good and easy way to support the CCPC Youth Ministry!

SCRIP Cards

SCRIP fundraising gift cards are the same gift cards you would normally purchase from a retailer in your local retail stores, and they work the same way. You'll find cards you can use at grocery stores, gas stations, restaurants, home improvement stores, and almost any business that accepts gift cards. CCPC Youth Ministry can earn up to a 15% rebate on each purchased gift card and 100% of the proceeds go to our Youth conferences and retreats. Using SCRIP couldn't be easier. You can purchase gift cards for places you plan to shop, and use those cards instead of cash or credit. This fundraiser is done by CCPC Youth twice a year, once in the Spring and once in the Fall.

Our SCRIP fundraiser begins on November 3 and ends on November 24.

The cards will come in after Thanksgiving. During the fundraiser, the Youth will be in the CCPC Atrium after church at a table distributing the SCRIP order form and list of retailers, and collecting the completed order form and accompanying check. All order forms are due by November 24th at Noon. Two or three weeks later (which will be announced in church and in *The Caller*), the Youth will hand out the gift cards to those who ordered them. Since the holidays are just around the corner, keep family, friends, and others in mind when you fill out your order forms. If you have any questions, please contact Rhia Miller at ccpcyouth15@gmail.com or 301-276-1230.

Thank You to all of those who volunteer each month to help out our youth!

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.*



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 Ann@ImagineThePlace.com. Scholarships available.