



The Caller

December 1, 2014

As Bob Hiller hinted in his Stewardship talk on November 16th, the "winds are changing" at CCPC. Since Advent marks the beginning of the new church year, I wanted to spell out these changes and the rationale behind them.

Several years ago, we decided to offer Sunday school for children and youth during one of the Sunday morning worship services. We did this after hiring a consultant to help us examine our needs and our resources. Although we were able to increase our post worship fellowship opportunities and to compress the length of our Sunday morning, the overall quality of our educational program declined.

Recruitment of teachers suffered because most adults want to be in worship. Using teachers on a rotating basis meant they were only with the children once a month. The lack of consistency in teachers diminished the quality of the relationships between teachers and students. When I taught confirmation class, I was always impressed with the Biblical and theological understanding our children had and the love and respect they carried for their teachers. The youth were blessed by having Amy Littlefield, Cathy Gallagher, Diane Dudley, and Debbie Armstrong guide them all through their grade school years. Jim Sherrick and Roxanne Johnson led the Junior High class, and the Charlie's (Dudley and Dziduch) alternated for the Senior High. Patty Cable was also very involved with teaching our Seniors. The students not only knew each other, they got to know and love the teachers. Those strong, enduring relationships with other adults are priceless.

The Session has considered making a change for a few years. It was never a case of if, just when. Some argued for waiting till September. Others wanted to start January 1st. After a long discussion, the Task Force, headed by Elder Matt Kaye (other members were current elders, Mary Lou

Chappell, Alex Bourne, Kathryn McCarty, and staff members Susan Ricci Rogel, Kevin Clemence, and I) decided that we should start the new schedule on February 22nd, the First Sunday in Lent. After listening to their rationale, the Session unanimously endorsed the change. Here is the schedule.

Chapel Service Worship with Communion will be from **8:30 AM to 9:15 AM**

Education for all ages will be from **9:30 AM to 10:15 AM**

Main Worship (with nursery and optional activity for children through 1st grade following the Children's Message) will be from **10:30 AM to 11:30 AM**.

You will notice that this is pretty close to what we had up until seven years ago. The exception being the second service will begin at 10:30 AM instead of 11 AM.

After we voted to make the changes, we received the great news that the first choice of the Christian Education Director Search Committee has agreed to join us. Justin Devine will arrive in late January and will start work around February 1st. His wife, Mikaela, will come a little later, depending on the timing of the sale of their house. Justin will become our full-time Director of Christian Education. Justin was raised Presbyterian and interned as a Youth Leader. He spent two years working with Campus Crusade in Campus Ministry at the University of Oregon. For the past six years, he has served as Director of Youth and Education at St. Mark's Lutheran Church in Fairfield, California. Justin is a 2004 graduate of the University of Oregon and a huge Duck football fan. Justin and Mikaela were married 16 months ago. They are expecting their first child in early May. You will be hearing more about the Devine's in the days ahead.

Your Session and key volunteers will start preparing for this new schedule right away. There are teachers to recruit. This will be somewhat easier because they will not miss worship or be prohibited from singing in the choir. There are Optional Activity materials to be assembled. Leaders and materials must be found for our expanded Adult Education offerings.

I find the upcoming changes exciting. It seems like we have been treading water programmatically for a few years now. Few new programs have been started. Many newcomers have not gotten integrated into the life and ministry of the congregation. I serve on a Committee with Executive Presbyter Wilson Gunn. He often talks about vision and leadership. He says we not only have to do things right, we have to be doing the right things. I think we are at a pivot point in the life of CCPC. With God's help and our faithfulness we can do great things.

Grace and peace,

James Brassard

P.S. I wanted to conclude with some shout outs. First of all, once again, we had a very successful Christmas Market on November 2nd. We raised over \$22,000 for 18 ministries ranging from Bowie CLAW to Living Waters for the World in Honduras. Special thanks to Sharon McNamara and Debbie Sell. It was a festive morning with folks staying around visiting. We had far more participation from children this year. Kris Ross designed a Passport for the children to visit all 18 ministry booths and hear about the people who are helped by our giving.

Second, here is an update on the 2015 Stewardship Drive. After two weeks, Sandy Dorsey reports we have 90 pledges totaling \$333,500. She reports this includes 18 new pledges. Since we accepted pledges on the two Sundays that bookend Thanksgiving, there are still several people (35) who pledged last year but have not yet turned in cards. We want to hear from everyone. Cards are available in the alcove by the sanctuary. The Session will meet on December 8th to approve the 2015 budget. Thank you for your generosity.

Finally, the Buildings and Grounds Committee and Chairperson Bill Radden-Le Sage wanted to thank the 18 workers who helped make the fall leaf clean up a success. After the exhausted workers left, the tireless David Conrad removed the overgrown holly tree that obscures most of the outdoor cross and took the mulching mower to cut all the grass. In further good news, Al Wimbish has finished work in the CE Building. All the entrances and interior doors have been rekeyed. Three groups now share the space: Imagine Yoga and Wellness Center, The Bowie Co-op Nursery, and the Turning Point Counseling Center.

The last of the old HVAC units, the one that heats and cools the Sanctuary bathrooms, the Parlor, the Choir room and the Sacristy, gave up the ghost. A replacement unit was ordered and will be installed next week. We apologize for the cold restrooms and the inconvenience for the choir as well as the groups that regularly meet in the Parlor. We anticipate that the replacement unit will eliminate the persistent leaks from that part of the roof. The \$12,000 tab comes out of the Capital Fund. Year-to-date contributions to this fund exceed \$235,000. More improvements to our facility will come next year. There you have the winds of change story.

AND . . . A heads up to parents:



On Sunday December 21st, Santa Claus will make his arrival at CCPC. His sled will touch down conveniently just as the 10 AM service concludes. The white bearded jolly man from the north will take up residence in Dodds Hall when the service ends. Bring your cameras. There will be a holiday reception following the service.



Worship Notes

December 7th: What motivates you to change? Is it fear and dread of the consequences if you don't? Are you motivated by a hope-filled vision of the better life awaiting you once you integrate new habits? John the Baptist is the advance man for Jesus. He uses an unusual combination of fear and hope by asking one question: What sort of person do you want to be? Texts are *Mark 1:1-8* and *Isaiah 40:1-11*. Communion will be celebrated at both services.

December 14th: The 10 AM service will center on a production of John Rutter's *Brother Heinrich's Christmas*. The play is referred to as "a fable with music". Music includes our Youth Orchestra, the Celebration Choir, and the Angel Choir (those cute little children). The roles in the story will be performed by adults (including your pastor), youth, and older children. When you add Christmas Carols, the lighting of the Advent Wreath and prayers, you have a full service. We will also take a moment to honor Rebecca Coleman's four years of service as our Children's Ministry Coordinator. Rebecca concludes her service at the end of the year.



December Sunday Calendar

Sunday, December 7, 2014

Christmas Families Final Deadline for Gift Drop Off by 6 PM

8:30 AM Chapel Worship Service -- Sanctuary

10:00 AM Worship with Communion -- Sanctuary

10:20 AM Sunday School: Cradle Roll through 5th Grade

6:30 PM Youth Group -- Sr. High Room

Sunday, December 21, 2014

8:30 AM Chapel Worship Service -- Sanctuary

10:00 AM Worship -- Sanctuary

10:20 AM Sunday School: Cradle Roll through 5th Grade

10:20 AM Sunday Morning Connect: Jr. and Sr. High

11:15 AM Christmas Music Reception -- Dodds Hall

Noon Free Yoga for Veterans -- CE Building

6:00 PM Imagine Center Winter Concert -- CE Building / Sanctuary

6:30 PM Youth Group -- Sr. High Room

Sunday, December 14, 2014

8:30 AM Chapel Worship Service -- Sanctuary

10:00 AM Worship with Brother Heinrich's Christmas

11:00 AM Christmas Families Baked Goods Deadline

11:30 AM - 2:00 PM Christmas Families Food Sorting -- Dodds

2:00 PM - 4:00 PM Christmas Families Consolidate Gifts & Groceries -- Dodds Hall

3:00 PM Ricci Rogel Music Studio Winter Recital -- Sanctuary

5:00 PM - 8:00 PM Setup for Christmas Families Pick Up -- Atrium

6:30 PM Discovery Circle -- Parlor

6:30 PM Youth Group -- Sr. High Room

7:00 PM Chesapeake Chorale Board Meeting -- Adult Ed Rm

Sunday, December 28, 2014

10:00 AM Worship -- Sanctuary

10:20 AM Sunday School: Cradle Roll through 5th Grade

Christmas Eve **Worship Services**

We will have two **Christmas Eve Services** again this year:

❖ The **Family Service will begin at 6 PM**. There will be special music from our children and youth starting at 5:45 PM. Following the Children's Message, the children will go to Dodds Hall for a special Christmas lesson.

❖ At **8:30 PM** we will hold our Candlelight Communion Worship Service.

2014 Poinsettia Orders for Christmas

Christmas poinsettias will be here soon! We will have 7" pots with 30 reds, 6 whites, 6 pinks, and 12 marble. The price is \$13 each. Poinsettias will be delivered on Thursday, December 18 and **all orders must be in by Sunday, December 14**. Any questions, please contact Judyann Feinstein at judith.a.glazener@gmail.com or 301-262-2840.

Thank you!

Your Name _____ Phone# _____

Given in **memory** of (please print clearly)

Or ... Given in **honor** of (please print clearly)

7" Poinsettia - Qty. _____ @ \$13.00 each, for a **TOTAL** of \$ _____

(Specify color) _____ red _____ white _____ pink _____ marble

Sunday, December 14 is the deadline date to place orders.
Please give form with payment to Judyann or drop it in the
Flower Committee's mailbox in the church office.

The Flower Committee thanks you so much for your generous contribution.

Flower Committee Request

The vases used for the Sunday arrangements are missing from our shelves.
Please bring the vase back after enjoying the flowers so that we can use them again.

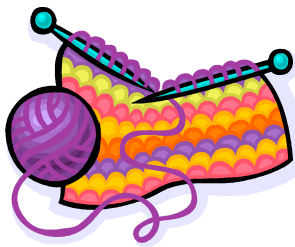
Thank you!

Judyann Feinstein, Flower Committee

Stephen Ministry

CCPC's trained Stephen Ministers provide completely confidential, one-to-one care to men and women going through a crisis or difficult time. They meet with that person weekly, offering Christian care and support for as long as needed. This Advent season, please consider whether you or those around you need care for a wide range of ministry needs: grief, divorce, hospitalization, financial stress, a new baby, unemployment, spiritual crisis, illness, retirement, long-term disability, relocation or other life challenges. Get in touch with Stephen Leaders Anita Pesses or Margaret Hallau or with Rev. James Brassard to request a Stephen Minister.

Knits with Sticks



To all CCPC Knitters and Crocheters,

We have a nice supply of donated yarn in the yarn closet across from the Parlor. For scarf and prayer shawl knitters, please feel welcome to help yourselves.

We now have boxes, tissue paper, tape, and ribbons for wrapping the Christmas Families parent's scarves, mitts, etc. Please join us on December 12th in the Adult Education Conference room from 10 AM to Noon for the wrapping of the parent's presents.

Any questions, please contact Priscilla Bouic at 301-262-4906 or pbouic@juno.com.

Tiger Lilies

The Tiger Lilies finished reading *Naked Spirituality* by Brian McLaren last month. We will not meet in December. Our next meeting will be Monday January 5 at 7:30 when we will begin discussing *The New Jim Crow* by Michelle Alexander. We welcome new readers. Contact Andrea Brassard at andreabrassard@verizon.net for more information.



New Contact Information

Frances Rocha's new address and phone number:

407 Russell Avenue
Gaithersburg, MD 20877
301-216-5593

and

The Farley's new address:

20580 E Regency Way
Parker, CO 80138

Last year, Warm Nights offered shelter, sustenance, and support to 268 Prince Georgians, homeless and in the cold, including 45 families and 70 children.

This year, we need you to

Bid! Celebrate! Give!

on

Tuesday, December 9th from 7 PM to 9 PM

Presented by the

Community Crisis Services, Inc.

*Gala Celebration
Give a Warm Night*

\$25.00 suggested donation

**Premium Auction Selections!
Entertainment!
Door Prizes!**

Newton White Mansion

2708 Enterprise Road
Mitchellville, Maryland 20721
301-249-2004

RSVP to

Laila Riazai lailar@ccsimd.org or
Donny Phillips donnyp@ccsimd.org

Christmas Families

2014 Schedule

Join us for one of the many Christmas Families program volunteer opportunities.

Sign-up sheets are in the atrium or just drop in to any of the below events:

12/7	By 6 PM	Final Deadline for Gift Drop Off
12/10	9 PM	Setup Dodds Hall
12/11	9 AM–5 PM	Gift Sorting & Checking
	6 PM–9 PM	Gift Sorting, Checking, & Wrapping
12/12	9 AM–3 PM	Gift Wrapping
	2 PM	Pickup Non-Perishable Food Order at Aldi's
	5 PM–9 PM	Gift Wrapping continued
12/13	9 AM–2 PM	Gift Wrapping, if needed (time tentative)
	2 PM–3 PM	Reset Dodds Hall for Food Sorting (time tentative)
12/14	11 AM	Baked Goods Due
	11:30 AM–2 PM	Food Sorting
	2 PM–4 PM	Consolidate Gifts & Groceries
12/15	7 AM–8 AM	Pickup Perishable Food Order at Aldi's
	9 AM–1 PM	Family Pickup/Delivery of Gifts & Groceries
	6 PM–9 PM	Family Pickup/Delivery of Gifts & Groceries

SCRIP

Gift Cards

SCRIP gift card orders will be handed out on December 7th before and after church



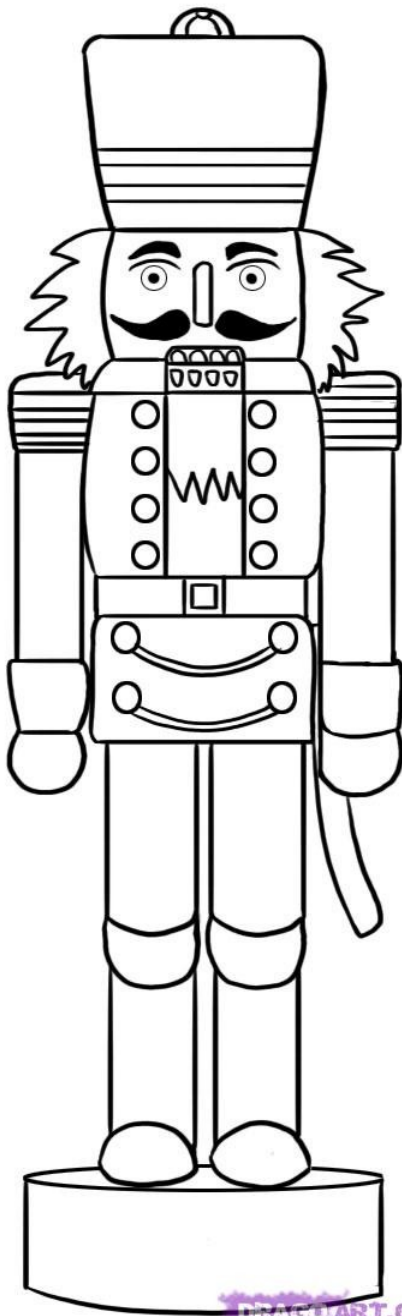
The next Caller will be sent out around December 18, 2014. Please have all articles in by 9 AM Friday, December 12. Please Note there will be no 1/1/2015 newsletter. The first newsletter for 2015 will be out around 1/15/2015.

Teen Job Bank

Teens are needed!

If you are a teenager interested in signing up for occasional work, including snow shoveling, housework, babysitting, leaf raking, and yard work, please call 301-809-3033 for an application through Bowie City Hall. It's a great way for you to earn a few extra dollars and help out your community!

Bowie residents who want to hire a teen may call the Bowie City Hall at 301-809-3033 for more information.



The Nutcracker

Sunday, December 7, 2014

at

3:00 PM

Presented for the children and grandchildren of CCPC, complete with popcorn and a dessert potluck!

This will be in the Senior High Room on their big TV, and all kids are invited.

Please bring a dessert to share so moms, dads, and grandparents can fellowship while the little ones watch this Christmas classic.

Children are also invited to wear ballet outfits or king/royal attire to make it extra fun!



Imagine

Yoga & Wellness Center

in appreciation of all of CCPC's support
invites you to share with us this December at one of the following free events

Holiday Open House

Saturday, December 6 at 10:30 AM – 4 PM

Class demonstrations, mini-appointments, and unique holiday shopping

Dakota 38 Film

Saturday, December 13 at 2 PM

Imagine Yoga & Wellness Center along with Sheree Ruhl is offering a free screening of "Dakota 38," a film about the healing journey commemorating the execution of 38 Native Americans in the Dakota Conflict of 1862. Special guest speaker after the film.

Free Yoga for Veterans

Sunday, December 21 at Noon

Every third Sunday, Imagine Center offers a free yoga class for veterans and their families, in gratitude for their service.

Meditative Concert

Sunday, December 21 at 6:30 PM

Join us for *Winter Soul Sanctuary*, a meditative concert, on the Winter Solstice, featuring local musicians and singers, and guided meditation.

Imagine Yoga & Wellness Center is located in the CCPC CE Building
For more information or to RSVP call Ann Fleming at
301-233-1694 or email Ann@ImagineThePlace.com.

Bowie's Senior Center Chorale
2014 Winter Concert

A Season of Lights

Concert Tickets Are On Sale Now!

Friday, December 19th at 7:30 PM

Tickets \$6.00, non-refundable.

Buy at the Bowie Senior Center or from Chorale Members.

Bowie Center for the Performing Arts
15200 Annapolis Road (Rte. 450), Bowie, Maryland 20715

*The
Chesapeake
Chorale*

TO BENEFIT THE
CROFTON CHRISTIAN CARING COUNCIL

HOLIDAY CONCERT

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2014
STARTS AT 7PM

JESSE PARKER
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

SUSAN NICCI ROGEL
ACCOMPANIST

DANIELE LOKIO
SOLOIST

ST. ELIZABETH ANN
SETON CATHOLIC CHURCH
1800 SETON DRIVE
CROFTON, MARYLAND 21114

TICKETS

\$15

ADULTS

\$12

SENIORS
MILITARY

FREE

STUDENTS
CHILDREN

CALL
410.721.5422

OR VISIT

WWW.CHESAPEAKECHORALE.ORG

FEATURING PULFICOS "Gloria"

Christian Community Presbyterian Church



3120 Belair Drive
Bowie, MD 20715
Phone (301) 262-6008
Fax (301) 262-5177
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.*



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.

