



The Caller

May 1, 2015

I don't visit Baltimore very often. I prefer the Orioles to the Nat's and love to watch them beat the Yankees at the Yard. We sometimes take our nieces and nephews to the Aquarium. Occasionally some CCPC people are patients at the two fine Baltimore hospitals: Johns Hopkins and University of Maryland. Each year, I look forward to joining Bob Schrott and 130,000 other horse racing fans at the Preakness Stakes on the third Saturday in May. I don't know Charm City.

My first visit to Baltimore was when I attended the General Assembly meeting in Baltimore 1992. I enjoyed the week with my dad and we attended theatre events and ate dinners in the then new Inner Harbor. We were struck by the gleaming new buildings and the shops in the Harbor, but quickly noticed that walking just a few blocks in any direction brought you face to face with urban blight and extreme poverty. Any current visitor to Baltimore cannot help but notice the substantial new investment in stadiums and office buildings and the underinvestment in schools and housing in the many poor areas of town. Don't get me started about the most recent large construction project in the city: the new Casino.

There is a much needed public discussion about the increasing inequality in America. Those of us that live and work with middle class people focus on the difficulty our millennial aged children are having finding middle income jobs in the global economy. What we don't talk about, and frankly don't see when we visit Baltimore's tourist sites and hospitals, is the persistent poverty in the many poor neighborhoods. The economic situation has declined substantially since the closing of the mills in the 1970's. Baltimore churches and non-profit groups that work in these poor areas talk about young black men being "confined to a box" created by poor public

education, a lack of job opportunities, and racial stereotyping. Like many other urban police departments, Baltimore has a long history of aggressive, sometimes brutal, treatment of black men.

Into this long simmering and oppressive social environment was thrown the spark of the mysterious death while in Police custody of 25 year old Freddie Gray. Responsible religious and civic leaders tried to calm the frayed nerves of angry citizens. These civic leaders hoped to use the incident to highlight the slow pace of change in police practices. As often is the case, a few miscreants and some wandering youth, started their mischief and some buildings and cars were set ablaze. We all hope the violence and looting ends soon and some much needed changes are made. Without justice, peace seldom lasts.

We are coming up on the 45th anniversary of the shooting of four Kent State students by the Ohio National Guard at a protest against the Vietnam War. These white students were part of a large nonviolent protest. The shooting ignited violent and destructive campus rampages that destroyed hundreds of college buildings across the Midwest. These riots were eventually contained. The calm lasted until President Nixon expanded the war into Cambodia and students again took to protesting. Four years later the long war ended. The draft ended by the time I started college.

The United States has a venerable right to protest and free speech. Meaningful social changes only come about when a vocal and organized citizenry puts pressure on elected leadership. Throughout our history peaceful protests have turned destructive. Mob violence is always ugly and senseless; regardless of the skin color of the participants.

Grace and peace,
James Brassard

Worship Notes

May 3: April 24th was the 100th anniversary of the start of the Armenian Genocide. Calling it genocide can still get you ostracized in Turkey. Why is it so hard to face uncomfortable truths? Does admitting to terrible deeds really get in the way of reconciliation? We will look at the Old Testament book of Esther where the first genocide was barely averted.

During the service, we will hear about the mission work of Presbyterian Missionaries Brian and Sandi Thompson – Royer.

May 10: This is Mother's Day. The sermon is aptly titled, *Lessons Learned from Our Mothers*. The text is from *Luke 13:10-17*, where Jesus heals a crippled woman on the Sabbath.

May 17: The Great Commandment comes from *Deuteronomy 6:3-9*, known as the Shema, a passage that Jesus, as a devout Jew, recited twice daily. This text stands as the foundation for keeping faith strong and for passing it on to future generations. We will honor Sunday school teachers at this service. A **brief Congregational Meeting** will follow the 10:30AM service. The Nominating committee will present the slate of church Officers for the coming term.



May Sunday Calendar

Sunday, May 3, 2015

8:30 AM Chapel Worship Service -- Sanctuary
 9:30 AM Adult Ed: Guatemala Mission -- Dodds Hall
 10:30 AM Circle Leader Meeting -- Parlor
 10:30 AM Worship Service with Communion -- Sanctuary
 2:30 PM Jack Jones Memorial Service -- Sanctuary
 3:30 PM Jack Jones Memorial Reception -- Dodds Hall
 6:30 PM Youth Group -- Sr. High Room

Sunday, May 10, 2015 - Mother's Day!

Script Fundraiser Starts
 8:30 AM Chapel Worship Service -- Sanctuary
 9:30 AM Adult Ed: Age of Reformation, part III -- Adult Ed Rm
 10:30 AM Worship Service -- Sanctuary
 6:30 PM Discovery Circle -- Parlor
 6:30 PM Youth Group -- Sr. High Room

Sunday, May 17, 2015

8:30 AM Chapel Worship Service -- Sanctuary
 9:30 AM Adult Ed: A Christian Woman in a Muslim World with Jen Woods -- Adult Ed Conf Rm
 10:30 AM Worship Service -- Sanctuary
 11:30 AM Congregational Meeting -- Sanctuary
 11:30 AM Reception for Teacher's -- Dodds Hall
 12 Noon Free Yoga for Veterans -- CE Building
 6:30 PM Youth Group -- Sr. High Room

Sunday, May 24, 2015

8:30 AM Chapel Worship Service -- Sanctuary
 9:30 AM Christian Education
 10:30 AM Worship Service with Rev. Hal Pease -- Sanctuary
 6:30 PM Youth Group -- Sr. High Room

Sunday, May 31, 2015

Last Sunday for Two Services
 8:30 AM Chapel Worship Service -- Sanctuary
 9:30 AM Christian Education
 10:30 AM Worship Service -- Sanctuary
 11:30 AM Sunday Music Reception -- Dodds Hall
 6:30 PM Youth Group -- Sr. High Room



Births

Welcome!

June Elizabeth Tengalio



Born April 21, 2015 to Lindsay (Oates) and Nick Tengalio
This is the sixth grandchild for proud grandparents Peggy and Skip Oates
Congratulations, Peggy & Skip!



Welcome!

Rachael Anne Genson

Born April 22, 2015 to Kevin and Kate Genson
This is the first grandchild for proud grandparents Judy and Don Genson
Congratulations, Judy & Don!

New Contact Information

Nancy Phillips' moved on April 27. Please note new contact information is:

10450 Lottsford Road, #152
Mitchellville, Maryland 20721
301-541-5101 or Cell: 301-351-4436

Power Outage Date Change Again!

Please note the power outage on the Dodds Hall side of the building will now be on
Tuesday, May 5 and will be out from approximately 7:30 AM to 5 PM.
Please remove anything you may have in the refrigerator before Tuesday, May 5.

Thank you for your patience and understanding!



I wish to thank the people in the congregation for their concerns, their cards and their prayers during my recent back issues and surgery. Everything is going very well as a result of my treatment. Thanks to all.
Dick Neff

Thank you to everyone who helped with the Shower for Mikaela & Justin! It was a wonderful day. It would not have been possible without all of the people who volunteered to help with the food, set-up, clean-up, games, blessing, and support. CCPC is an amazing group of people. Thank you for your time and efforts for making the celebration of this New Chapter for the Devine family possible.

Thanks,
Alex Bourne, Lynn de Seve, and Kathryn McCarty

I just returned from TN where I engaged the Nashville and Clarksville communities in conversation about caring for veterans and their families. What a blessing this has been, to introduce the faith communities to our veterans and begin conversations on how to be engaged in mission and ministry. Anyway, please accept my apologies for my tardiness in responding to CCPC's kind donation to the Soul Care Initiative.

On behalf of JustPeace and the Soul Care Initiative, thank you! We are so appreciative of your kind contribution. If you would like to have a conversation about a future training event in CCPC or how we can assist you with resources, please let me know. Just a FYI, since I was in CCPC, we have launched our new website, soulcareinitiative.org. Please take a moment to open it and spend some time reviewing the wealth of information and resources. Again, thank you for your donation.

Blessings,
Dave Smith, Coordinator, Soul Care Initiative
JustPeace

To CCPC and its wonderful members:

I want to thank you on behalf of all the families that participated in my students' piano recital on April 26. With the sanctuary for the recital and Dodds Hall for the reception, you provide a beautiful and peaceful venue for our music. You gave us a space in which the families can witness and encourage each student's growing artistic expression. I always enjoy working with Robin Seekford! And, I thank Susan Ricci Rogel for sharing the piano. Thank you to Reverend James Brassard for the bigger picture and leading a church that is so generous! We are enclosing a donation to express our gratitude for all you do for the community.

Sincerely,
Martie Harris

Adult Education

- May 3: Bryan Royer will report to CCPC on mission work that he and his wife, Sandi Thompson-Royer, have done in Guatemala.
- May 10: Dick Neff completes his three-part class on the early Reformation.
- May 17: Jennifer Woods reprises her conversation on life in Kuwait and being a Christian Woman in a Muslim world.

Bowie Senior Chorale

The Bowie Senior Chorale presents Decades of Dance on Wednesday, May 20, 2015 at 7:30 PM at the Bowie Center for the Performing Arts at 15200 Annapolis Rd. Tickets are on sale now! Cost is \$6.00 and tickets are non-refundable. Purchase your tickets at the Bowie Senior Center from Chorale members.

Chesapeake Chorale

The Chesapeake Chorale will be presenting Schubert's *Mass in E Flat* at 3:00 PM on Sunday, May 17th, at St. Matthew's United Methodist Church, 14900 Annapolis Road, Bowie, MD. This glorious late masterpiece, one of the final compositions of Schubert, will be performed with soloists and piano accompaniment. A reception will follow in St. Matthews Fellowship Hall. Tickets: \$15 (adult); \$12 (senior 60+ and military); FREE for students and children. For more information visit www.chesapeakechorale.org.

Flower Arranging Workshop

Friendly Reminder!

On Saturday, May 9th at 10 AM to Noon in the CCPC kitchen, we will discuss the key points to designing an arrangement. Flowers will be available for Sunday's flower ministry. If you would like to make your own arrangement to take home, please bring three to four bunches of flowers, which will be the amount needed for one arrangement.

REMEMBER: Mother's Day is the next day—Sunday, May 10th!

The Flower Committee

Devine **Interventions**

Hey everyone,

Just wanted to give a bit of an update on how things are going and a few things to look for coming up! We had a great time at youth group last night playing capture the flag, eating pumpkin pie, and continuing on with our Gospel series. Friday night the Youth Group had a Laser tag outing. The 10 of us had a great time. On Sunday, we had a Montreat meeting, as we have 5 students slated to attend the trip from August 2nd - 6th. We had a Youth Council Meeting after service with about 15 of us. We are getting excited for our retreat June 26th-28th. Also, Youth Sunday is going to be on June 14th.

Vacation Bible School will be June 22nd-25th so mark your calendars! Sign up sheets should be out this week. We will also be starting volunteer sign ups in the next couple of weeks, so start thinking about how you might like to serve!

May 17th is the last day of Sunday school. We will also be celebrating the dedication of our wonderful teachers at the 10:30 service on that day. Starting next week we will be offering sign ups for a special children's musical performance at Music Sunday on May 31st. Susan Ricci Rogel and I will be working together with the children to make this happen.

Dick Neff has had a very popular class the past two weeks on the Reformation. We have guests coming back from their Guatemalan Mission this Sunday that will be sharing with us on May 3rd, then Dick and Jen Woods will finish out the calendar with classes continuing off of their recent classes.

Personal notes:

We have both houses closing this week, so if you're interested in helping us move some stuff in (probably next week) just let me know. We can use all the help we can get, especially doing things like finding studs, mounting TVs, Hanging pictures, etc. Oh, and there is a piano to move too! The Baby and Mikaela are healthy and in the home stretch! We are very excited to be here in Bowie. We were overwhelmed with gratitude for the generosity you showed us at the baby shower, so a big thank you goes out to the congregation for that. Especially to Alex Bourne, Kathryn McCarty, and Lynn de Seve for all of their hard work.

It's now been three months here at CCPC and we have done so much in that time, but we are just getting started. I look forward to what our ministries have planned going into the summer and beyond into the fall!

Justin

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance

Earthquake Disaster in Nepal

The death toll from the massive earthquake in Nepal continues to rise. Nearly 4,000 are known dead and more than 6,000 were injured when the 7.8 quake struck just west of the capital of Kathmandu on April 25. The quake, the worst in more than 80 years, along with many serious aftershocks has also caused damage in parts of India and Bangladesh.



Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) is providing emergency relief and short-term recovery in the impacted areas with our partner, ACT Alliance and its members who are already on the ground. Immediate response will help provide needed food, water, supplies and medicine to the impacted towns and villages. As long term recovery plans are developed, PDA will accompany and further financially support our partners in the area to insure that a comprehensive recovery is sustained.

**The needs for the response will be great.
God's people are once again called on to stand in the "GAP"
Give. Act. Pray.**

Give: Financial support for relief efforts can be designated to DR999999 with reference to Nepal. Gifts can be made online, by phone (800) 872-3283 weekdays between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. (EST), or checks can be mailed to Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), P.O. Box 643700, Pittsburg, PA 15264-3700.

The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) has been in partnership with the United Mission to Nepal since the mission began on March 5, 1954. In the midst of a vast Hindu majority we have worked with the Christians in Nepal through mission personnel and partner church relationships. Our ministry together consists of church empowerment, community development, health ministries and leadership development. Ecumenism in the Church of Nepal is still under formation. The country is being torn apart by political instability due to an eight-year-long Maoist rebellion. With our Nepalese partner we feel that neither this, nor any other barrier, is insurmountable. The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) has celebrated more than 50 years of ministry in this South Asian kingdom.



The next Caller will be sent out on May 14. Please have all articles in by 9 AM on Tuesday, May 12. Questions, please call the office.

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.

