

n Sunday, we had a good kick off for our new fall schedule. The number of people at the church by 7am made it seem like Easter. Don Genson put the coffee on. Emelie Rubin, Mikaela Devine, and Kim Tavel set up breakfast. The singers and musicians were warming up in the Sanctuary. Dennis Evans was in the balcony running the slides for the worship team. Our sound tech was making certain every microphone was working. There was great energy along with great uncertainty. How would this work out? Would all the planning and preparation be worth it?

We did not know what to expect with the new schedule and the new service. As it turned out, we had 92 at the first service and about 20 more (110) at the second. Last year we had about the same total attendance — but only 22 at the 8:30am Chapel/Communion Service and 170 at 10:30am. With more people at the 9am worship, our attendance for the Adult Education offering: "Building Healthy Relationships," and children's Sunday school, were higher than last year. CCPC tends to get people out for special events, like the fall kick off, but then we don't maintain our momentum. The Session is working hard to ensure this isn't the case.

The Session is hoping to get our members to make a two-hour commitment on Sunday mornings. Come for worship at 9am and stay through the Education hour (9 to 11) or come for Education at 10am and stay through the 11am service. (10 to 12). Because we have two services, Elder Jen Woods is working hard to provide adult education options that are more relational. We want people to worship regularly and be committed to spiritual growth. Parents need to come regularly so their children can learn to follow Christ. <u>Note:</u> We will offer Children's Church at both services.

We plan to have fellowship opportunities every week before and between services. <u>Hint:</u> "They're Coming Back" starting September 24th! In order to grow the congregation, we need you to invite your friends and neighbors to join us. The first visit anyone makes to church is the most important. Newcomers need to be welcomed. We need you to pay attention to them. We need you to invite them to join you in class. When they return the second time, we need you to reintroduce yourself and make a further effort to learn their story and invite them to participate in our programs and our mission activities.

By the way — we still need volunteers for the One Day Work Camp at the Smith's House next Saturday, September 23rd at 9am. All supplies and instruction will be provided. We will serve lunch on site.

With two full worship services, we need some more volunteers. We need help taking down the band equipment (roadies) following the 9am service. We could also use some more ushers and greeters. Please consider filling one of these roles if you are able.

I want to thank several people who helped get us ready for the new schedule. Chuck Tanner wired the balcony with Internet Access and installed a new computer for the projection of slides. Bob Brutout installed the new screen and a projector in Dodds Hall. This will be used for Adult Education and programs like this week's Women's Retreat. I'm very excited about the energy level people had after both worship services.

As you know, doing anything new requires a great deal of additional work. Your leadership, staff and elected officers and volunteers, are all in. Please pray for the spirit of God to come alive in our worship, our learning, and in our service together.

Grace and peace, James Brassard

Hurricane Harvey and Irma Relief



So far we have received over \$7500 in donations towards helping those affected by the devastating Hurricanes that hit Houston one week and then Florida the next.

We will continue to collect money in the next few weeks. We will send these offerings and additional money from our mission budget to help those in great need.

Please pray for all those families who are attempting to rebuild their lives.

Worship Notes

September 17: We continue a four-week series on Adam and Eve: the world's first and most influential love story. *Genesis 3* tells of Adam and Eve eating from the tree of knowledge. This act of disobedience results in them being cast out of Eden. Why did Eve eat of the forbidden fruit? Why did Adam join her? How does this story help us grow in wisdom and knowledge?

September 24: Genesis 4. The first couple leaves Eden and starts life together. They have children. Two sons. How wonderful. Then, one son kills the other. How awful. What went wrong? Who is to blame? How does the family stay together? What challenges do children bring to couples? What benefits do they bring?

The 12th Annual Brick Dedication Ceremony will be held on Sunday, September 24 at 12:15pm (following the 11am Worship Service) The service will be held in the Memorial Garden as we add four bricks in memory of Suzanne Brock, Helen Bujac, Barbara Curtis, and Dessamore Hillman.



Adult Education

Beginning on October 1, 2017, Adult Education will offer two class options.

The first option is a five-week series called *Reformation: The Five Solas.* This series will focus on the Reformers' convictions about the essentials of Christianity. Each class will include a discussion of one of the five Solas, its meaning in the time of the Reformation and its modern repercussions. Discussions will be led by Mary Brock, Dodji Komlan, Kevin

Rice, Steve Webb, and Jen Woods. Meet in the Adult Ed Conference room.

The second option is *Living Christian in a Secular World*. This will be a structured bible study designed for people with relatively limited experience and knowledge of the Bible. Emphasis will be placed on applying scripture to the challenges of daily living in a secular world. Classes will be led alternately by Pastor James and Justin, and will continue throughout the 2017-2018 year. Meet in the Belair room.

Caller Notice!

There will be only one Caller for October, which will be the October 1, 2017 Caller. <u>The deadline is by</u> <u>9am Wednesday, September 27</u>.

No October mid-month Caller.

The November 1, 2017 Caller deadline is by 9am Friday, October 27

Children's Campfire

Saturday, September 30 at 6 PM Inviting all children and their families to join us in the back parking lot for

Hot Dogs! Games! Smores!

If you have any questions, please call 707-344-3325 or email Justin Devine at <u>ccpcdirced@verizon.net</u>



Chris Campbell

Chris is in Charlestown, Renaissance Gardens. She would love to see you or talk with you. Her address is:

> Renaissance Garden North Room 112B 709 Maiden Choice Road Catonsville, MD 21228

Her cell phone is 240-432-1645

Renaissance Gardens phone is 410-536-9372

Christmas Marbet

Sunday, November 5 9:00am to 1:00 pm

Details will be in the October 1, 2017 Caller



Statements Available

The partial year 2017 Statements of Giving for the period ending August 31, 2017 are available in the Atrium. To save postage, we are asking you to please pick yours up as soon as possible so we won't need to mail them.

> Please review your statement for accuracy. If you find any discrepancies that you are concerned about please contact me at 301-261-7941 or donoian@verizon.net.

Please do this now instead of waiting for the end of the year where it will be more difficult to make corrections. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Steve Donoian, Financial Secretary



Thank You!

Dick and Trudy Neff want to thank the congregation for the reception that was held for us on August 20. We were very happy that so many celebrated with us the 60th anniversary of Dick's Ordination and our 62nd wedding anniversary. Thank you all so much!



Trudy and Dick Neff

Work Day ^{at the} Smith's House



Join us on Saturday, September 23 at 9am to help paint (inside and out), clean up the yard, plant some flowers, and do small odds-and-ends type jobs around the house. The address is

> 5518 Addison Road Capitol Heights, Maryland.

Lunch will be served. RSVP to Ryan Remley t ryan.remley@yahoo.com

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 <u>www.ImagineThePlace.com</u>, call 443-510-6308, or e-mail info@ImagineThePlace.com. Scholarships available.