

**F**or me the Winter Olympics answers the question: what do people who live in cold and icy places do to survive winter? Answer: they design all sorts of activities and competitions that get them outside. When the sun comes out on a frigid January day in Minnesota, you grab your skates and head to the pond. Soon you are gliding over the frozen water and building up some perspiration. Your body and heart start to thaw out. You meet some like-minded friends and you chat while you glide along. If you are seven years old and it's Saturday morning, you jump out of bed and head to the nearby lake at 8 am and join your friends with their sticks and skates and play hockey until the sun goes down. The long winters do not bother you because you get outside and enjoy yourself. People from northern climes tend to complain more about the hot summers than the cold winters.

This year the United States sent the largest delegation ever to South Korea. There is little chance we will win a fraction of the medals won by countries with much smaller populations. Norway, a nation of 5 million, has won the most winter Olympic medals in history. The Norwegians dominate sports like ski jumping and Nordic skiing. When I visited Lake Placid a few years ago, I saw the ski jumping ramps from a distance. They towered above the horizon. Who would do that I thought? Maybe someone who lacks any fear or has a bad case of cabin fever.

Fear and danger is what draws viewers. Americans did very well in slopestyle and the halfpipe and other events performed on snowboards. These events attract amazing young athletes because of the sports artistry and athleticism. Like auto racing, some fans enjoy the accidents. The most dangerous Olympic event is downhill skiing. Racers reach speeds of 90 miles per hour. As the skiers execute each turn, they are right on the edge of falling. Last year, one Olympic hopeful lost an edge and went flying off the course at high speed. Two levels of netting did not stop his momentum. He hit a tree that killed him. Reporters asked this year's Olympic Downhillers if they think about the mortal danger. "Yes, but we don't talk about it."

When we think of great American Olympic moments, we think of the Miracle on Ice. In 1980, the University of Minnesota's hockey coach Herb Brooks put together the American hockey team. The team was mostly Minnesota college students. Minnesota has long and bitterly cold winters and until hockey became popular in America, it was the center of American hockey. Under Brook's leadership, the team shocked the powerful and seasoned Russian team that had dominated an all-star team of National Hockey League players. Their Gold Medal victory is still celebrated.

For years, the only competition Americans had realistic medal hopes was figure skating. I still remember when Peggy Fleming won the women's gold medal in 1964. She was so graceful. For similar grace don't miss the Canadian ice dancing pair of Scott Moir and Tessa Virtue. Their choreography perfectly matches the music. When you are watching this year's competitors, you see how the sport has evolved. American Mirai Nagasy landed the first women's triple! How do they not break their ankles?

What makes the Olympics thrilling is individuals from around the world train passionately for years. Often, training requires leaving home and family and camping out (sometimes literally) near a mountain peak so they can train daily. The few that make it get just a few chances to show their skill. Since it is a one-time opportunity, the athletes go all out. Fearless. Confident. Bold. Just to complete is to fulfill a dream. Some great athletes are competing in their fourth or even fifth Olympic games. They have the medals and the medical history to prove their skill

and determination. Skier Lindsey Vonn has had seven major surgeries. Their joy when they win — is something to behold. Hail to Shaun White!

Watching the Olympics helps get me through the cold rainy days of February. It motivates me to get back into the gym to lose the weight I have gained from being stuck inside. I just heard that tomorrow's temperatures might approach 70. Please read about our Lenten activities and let's prepare together for Easter and Spring.

Grace and peace,

James Brassard



## *Worship Notes*

**February 18:** In *John 6:35, 41-51*, we have the first of the seven “I am” statements of Jesus. Jesus uses language associated with Moses at the burning bush to proclaim, “I am the bread of Life.” How does God draw us into a relationship? Why do some draw near and others stay away?

**February 25:** Jesus says “I am the Good Shepherd” in *John 10*. The shepherd image is familiar from the beloved 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm. We welcome Rev. Lee Hasty to our pulpit. Lee is the Director of the Presbyterian Church Theological Education Fund (which CCPC supports and funds the education of pastors). He will lead youth Connect during the Education hour and would like to talk with anyone considering pastoral ministry.

## *Deacon's Caregivers Luncheon*

**SAVE THE DATE**

**Saturday, April 14, 2018 at 12 Noon**

We want to honor you! Stay tuned — more information to come . . .

In Memory of

*Judith Carroll - Arnett*

**May 17, 1936 - February 9, 2018**

Judith David Carroll-Arnett of Bowie, Maryland passed away on Friday, February 9, 2018. Judith was the wife of the late John J. Carroll for 36 years and the late Charles Arnett for 4 years; daughter of the late Frances "E" Hildebrand; mother of Jan Glasgow (George), Jil Carroll (Danny), Joi Kesner (Brian), Joe Carroll (Denise) and Jay Bell and step-mother of Connie Arnett. Judith is survived by 17 grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren and she was preceded in death by a grandson, the late John Michael Carroll.

The family will receive friends at the Robert E. Evans Funeral Home on Tuesday, February 13, 2018. A Funeral Service was held at 11 am, Wednesday, February 14, 2018 in the Sanctuary. Interment was followed at George Washington Cemetery, Adelphi, Maryland. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Christian Community Presbyterian Church, 3120 Bel Air Drive, Bowie, Maryland 20715.

Our thoughts and prayers are with the Kesner, Carroll, and Arnett families.



In Memory of

*Robert Karl Everett*

**May 13, 1956 - January 27, 2018**

Funeral will be held on Saturday, February 17 at 11am at Grace Community Church in Fulton, Maryland (8200 Old Columbia Rd, 20759).

Our thoughts and prayers are with Barbara, her daughter Melanie, and their families.

# *New Member Gathering!*

Join us on February 18 at 10:00am in the Parlor. We will discuss ways to increase your involvement in the life and ministry of CCPC. Newcomers will fill out the Time and Talent sheet and will meet with some of the CCPC staff and key volunteers. Those wishing to become members of the church will meet with the Session on Monday night, March 12 at 7:30 to 8:00 pm in the Adult Ed Conference room. If you have any questions, contact Reverend Brassard at [ccpcpastor@verizon.net](mailto:ccpcpastor@verizon.net) or 240-620-3943.

## *Lenten Luncheons!*



### **Potato Bash!**

**Sunday, March 4th at 12 Noon**

The Deacons will prepare baked potatoes with some of your favorite toppings. Mac 'n Cheese will provide another option plus tossed, veggie and fruit salads. A variety of desserts will satisfy your sweet tooth. See you in Dodds Hall!

### **Pasta Palooza!**

**Palm Sunday, March 25  
at 11:15 am**

**(One service only at 10am)**

Children and Youth Ministries will host a pasta lunch with all the fixings!



Join us in the Sanctuary to listen to several local Christian musicians and singers, including CCPC's Sam Guillermo. All are welcome. Refreshments will be served.



# *Wednesday Night Live!*

**Don't miss our next WNL event**

Join us in Dodds Hall on

February 21, 2018 at 5:55pm

We will have dinner and a program.

Hope to see you there!

# Lenten Readings

Looking for a different  
Lenten discipline this year?

*"Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and  
a light unto my path."*

Join us in the Sanctuary each morning  
(except Sundays) during Lent (February 14th through March 31st) at 7:15 AM  
for the reading of the daily lectionary and a brief prayer.

We are usually finished by 7:30 AM.

# ClimbZone



**WHO:** Children, Youth, and their families

**WHEN:** March 17, 2018 at 1pm

**LOCATION:** 13200 Mid Atlantic Blvd #130  
Laurel, MD 20708

**COST:** \$10 Ages 2-6 and \$20 ages 6 and up



## CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY

# WOMEN'S CORNER

## Women's Retreat

**MARCH 9 – 11, 2018**

**LOCATION:**

Potomac Park Retreat Center, 11 Tabernacle Way, Falling Water, WV (very close to the Maryland border)  
Christian Conference Center for 80 years. Where I-70 & I-81 meet. Coffee Shop on-site and walking distance to town.

**INCLUDED:**

Two nights stay with 5 meals, beginning Friday night. All materials, except your bibles.

**LEADER:** Tara Spuhler McCabe (she lead Women's Sunday in June)

**THEME:** "This I Believe" – a personal Faith journey.

**COST:**

Double Room \$150. per person / Triple+ Room \$140. per person / Single Room \$175.

Pay in full by Feb. 11 for a \$10 discount. Need 4 meals – another \$10 discount.

Rooms have 2 beds and are located on the 2nd floor without an elevator.

Please indicate if you need a GROUND FLOOR ROOM, these are available.

Scholarship money is also available. We want everyone to attend.

Place completed form with check(s) in the church office box labeled "Presbyterian Women"

Checks payable to: Presbyterian Women – CCPC

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

1<sup>ST</sup> FLOOR: \_\_\_\_\_ NEED A RIDE: \_\_\_\_\_ I CAN DRIVE: \_\_\_\_\_

MY ROOMMATE: \_\_\_\_\_

NEED A ROOMMATE: \_\_\_\_\_

EMERGENCY CONTACT: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

# *Adult Education!*



The next Adult Education offering is a series led by Dick Neff entitled, "Heaven and Hell: Themes in Literature and Scripture." The 4-week series began on Sunday, February 11 and continues through Sunday, March 4. The classes will be held in the Adult Ed Conference Room. The topics for each Sunday are as follows:

Sunday, February 18 - The New Testament  
Sunday, February 25 - Classic Literature and Art  
Sunday, March 4 - Contemporary Research

Questions about Adult Ed, contact Jen Woods.

# Christian Community Presbyterian Church



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Web: <http://ccpc.bowiemd.org>  
E-mail: [ccpcbowie@verizon.net](mailto: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](mailto:info@belaircoop.org)

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