

Now that the rush of Easter is over, I am getting caught up with my pastoral calls and my reading.

One of the books I purchased is “Strangers and Friends at the Welcome Table: Contemporary Christianities in the American South” by Vanderbilt Professor of Religious History James Hudnut –Beumler. I really enjoyed his 1994 book, Looking for God in the Suburbs. This new book is equally informative.

Hudnut-Beumler considers himself a student of southern Christianity and culture. His research took him to several dozen ministries, movements and churches in the south. As a native southerner, he extols the regions famous generosity in welcoming and caring for people in their churches and extended community. Yet he also discovers many southerners are opposed to government programs, including those that would extend aid to poor people whom the churches are not reaching. Yet he highlights several notable exceptions of groups that address poverty. He praises groups that address the justice issues in response to Hurricane Katrina including RHIMO and the Micah Project. Like any good historian, he does not assume to paint all Christians with the same brush.

He investigates another traditional southern theme, what he calls the “religion of the Lost Cause” or what advocates call “the sacred battle for collective memory” of the Civil War. Hudnut-Beumler believes the current rhetoric about the Civil War is stronger than any time in the 20th century (and he wrote before the 2017 Charlottesville demonstrations). I am reminded of southern writer William Faulkner’s quote, “the past is not dead, it is not even past.”

I was amazed by his treatment of homeschooling movements in the south. He attended the Teach Them Diligently convention where the largest publishers of homeschool curriculum sold their curriculum. The material focuses on creationism and leadership in the home (Fathers firmly in control). They are very suspicious of scientific realities and public schools. The authors says that for homeschoolers the public schools are an “affront to God, the Bible, political freedom, and Christian liberty.” Homeschooling is as strong as ever. Not surprisingly, Christian groups in the south lag way behind the rest of the country in acceptance of LGBT persons.

The author points out that the contemporary South is still religiously distinct and dominantly Christian. This week 74-3 vote in the Alabama legislature in favor of an almost total abortion ban is a good example. The bill would imprison doctors caught performing abortions in the state with sentences up to 99 years. Although Hudnut-Beumler sees southern Christianity becoming more diverse, I think that national politics seem to have engraved traditional southern sentiments even more deeply into the national consciousness.

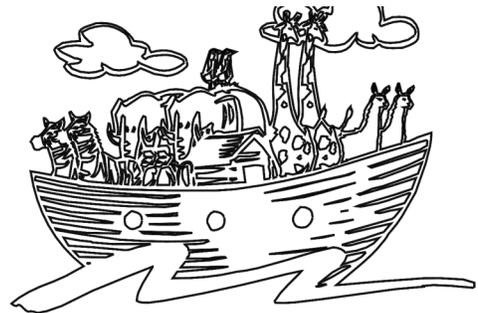
Hudnut – Beumler affirms one thing my southern pastor friends have told me they enjoy about living in the American south. It is a place where people still take the Bible seriously

and use the Bible in forming conversations about important issues. Whenever the Bible is thoughtfully used in face-to-face conversations between Strangers and Friends, good things happen.

Speaking of good things happening: I highly recommend the special worship service on May 19 (***one service only at 10:00 AM***). Our music program has blossomed this year in ways I never thought possible. Children, youth and adult have embraced Rick Osborne's energetic and creative leadership.

Remember; Christ is Risen!

James Brassard



Music Sunday and “Noah” is Coming!

On Sunday, May 19th, we will have one service at 10:00 a.m. This service will involve all of our music ministry forces including the Praise Team, the Celebration Choir, Clinquant, the Children's Bell Choir and the Children's Choir, our Recorder Ensemble, trumpeters Matt Novak and Sara Huey, and our Sunday School children in their presentation of “Noah.” Mark your calendars!

Worship Notes

May 5th: Communion at both services: Rev. Brassard begins his series on the Holy Spirit in the early church. In Acts 10, we find Peter trying to catch up with the Holy Spirit's movement out of Jerusalem and into the world. Hint: Not everyone was enthusiastic with the new people he brought to the table.

May 12th: Mother's Day. Building on Peter's bold preaching, the Apostle Paul takes the lead in Acts 13 and 14. Paul more than anyone else insists the church be mission driven, theologically grounded, and culturally relevant.



Good News!

The roof project is done! The roof manufacturer (Firestone) inspected the work and pasted the application was to their specifications. We will receive a 20 year warranty on the material and the roofer will give us a 2 year warranty on his labor. At this time I would also like to thank Bob Brutout for his invaluable knowledge and expertise on the installation of this type of commercial roofing. Thank you all for your patience and understanding in this journey.

Skip Oates, Building & Grounds Elder

Greetings from Malawi!

Hello and blessing from Mzuzu, Malawi. We wanted to thank you for your support of our ministries in Malawi, Africa over the past year lifting up Tyler's work in theological education and Rochelle's work in water and sanitation.

Thank you! To follow our weekly family blog please visit: [http://](http://www.holminafrika.blogspot.com/)

www.holminafrika.blogspot.com/

Grace and Peace,

Tyler, Rochelle and Mphatso Holm

Mzuzu, Malawi

rochelle@rochelleholm.com



Thank You!

To the wonderful people of CCPC,

I count my blessings for myself and my students for being able to have our piano recitals at CCPC year after year.

The families love being here and collecting donations to support all the music that you do.

Today, I'd like to thank Rev. Brassard for welcoming us. And, Rick Osborne, who I was glad to meet briefly the week before our recital. I appreciate how he setup the piano for us, and for sharing your musical space. Thank you to Justin Devine for sharing his phone number in case we needed anything and making me feel so supported. I'd also like to thank Jane Mellow for connecting us with the church when she was on the Session some years ago. And thanks, as always, to Robin Seekford, the calendar wizard and good-humored mastermind that gets us all coordinated. I'm enclosing a check from the student's families contribution to the music department at CCPC.

Happy springtime, and we look forward to seeing you again in the autumn.

Warmly,
Martie Harris

Migration: The Moral Issue of our Time

4-week series

CCPC members share biblical passages of migration and lead discussions on the current debate about migration.

Join us in the
Adult Education Conference Room at 10:00 AM on:

April 28, 2019

Jewish Diaspora after 70 CE

Leader: Mary Brock

May 5, 2019

Babylonian Captivity

Leader: Steve webb

May 12, 2019

Exodus

Leader: Dick Neff

May 19, 2019

Migration of Missionaries

Leader: Gary Cox



VBS “ROAR”

Save the Date!

June 17—20, 2019

Women's Sunday

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN CELEBRATE

JUNE 2, 2019

On the first Sunday in June, we will have our celebration of Women in the Church. You will see Women in leadership roles throughout the service. We welcome you to attend either service and attend our reception at 10:00 where we will honor our new Honorary Life Member.

Each year since 2004, we have selected an Honorary Life Member in recognition of faithful service of the church's work. When considering a nominee we look at Bowie community service, faith in God through actions, accomplishments at CCPC, and how she lifts others.

Previous Honorees:

2018	Debbie Sell	2012	Nancy Honeyford	2006	Marjorie Tanner & Doris Kobe
2017	Cyd Radden-LeSage	2011	Joy Bible & Marge Clark	2005	Jane Sumner
2016	Sue Evans	2010	Jean Bauer	2004	June Colgan
2015	Mary Keller	2009	Sue Cobb & Mary Hazel		
2014	Trudy Neff	2008	Lois Pals & Peggy Oates		
2013	Sharon McNamara	2007	Dee McCarty		

Please plan to join the entire congregation at the reception and if you can contribute a finger food to share in the feast we "thank you" for your contribution.

Any questions, please contact Peggy Oates at 301-262-6959 or peggyoates@hotmail.com or Cyd Radden-LeSage at 301-352-9582 or wyonative@verizon.net.

Spiritual-based Health Program

Want to DECREASE your weight and INCREASE your faith at the same time? Are you tired of being tired? Would you like to know God in a more intimate way? The answer is coming! **First Place for Health, a Christ-centered total-wellness program is happening in the Adult Education room starting Saturday, May 18 at 9:00 am. This is a 12 week program.**

A registration form and kit is required to attend. Forms with instructions are in the Atrium. For more information, please contact Jacquie Coles colesjacquie@gmail.com or 240.381.6077. www.firstplaceforhealth.com

Warm Nights!

May 5 to 12, 2019



Warm Nights is the name we commonly use to refer to PG County's Hyperthermia Program. Now that CCSi, the organization that manages Warm Nights, is trying to run the shelter year round it sounds a bit strange to call it Warm Nights in May. However, most people know what Warm Nights is so we will continue to use the name. There are many opportunities for CCPC volunteers to provide support. You can prepare breakfast or dinner, make bagged lunches with supplies provided by Mission Council, serve as an overnight host or help set up the cots and equipment in Dodds Hall on Sunday, May 5th. We know that May is a very busy month for many families, but we hope you can fit in a little time in your schedule to support this important mission program.



*The Chesapeake
Chorale Presents*

The Marvelous Mr.
Mozart

Saturday, May 18th, 2019
7:30pm

**featuring selections from the *Requiem*, the
Coronation Mass, *Solemn Vespers*, & more!**

St. Matthews United Methodist Church • 14900 Annapolis Rd. • Bowie, MD 20715
ChesapeakeChorale.org • (240) 206-8903
Jesse Parker • Artistic Director | Susan Ricci Rogel • Accompanist

Tickets	
Advanced:	At the Door:
— \$12 — SENIORS & MILITARY	— \$15 —
— \$18 — ADULTS	— \$20 —
— \$5 — STUDENTS	— \$5 —

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Please bring canned goods to support the Bowie Food Pantry

CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
2019 CONCERT SERIES

Presents
Organist Wesley Parrot



SUNDAY, MAY 5, 2019 AT 4:00 PM

*Mr. Parrott, organist of Philadelphia
Episcopal Cathedral will present works by Handel, Lefebure-Wely and
Widor.*

*A free will offering will be received
and a reception will follow*

Christian Community Presbyterian Church



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

Please remember CCPC in your will.



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

info@ImagineThePlace.com. Scholarships available.

