

A warm, socially distanced greeting from my office at CCPC. I pray you are all finding ways to stay connected to each other and to our church community in this scary time of the Covid-19 pandemic. I hope you have been watching our worship services and catching Justin's Bible study and Charles Tanners Daily Lectionary reading on Facebook.

The Session had our first on-line meeting using ZOOM on Monday. The connection was excellent. We had four members in the conference room (all more than 6 feet apart) and an additional eight connected online. With everyone's face projected on the screen in front of you, and being able to hear his or her voices, I soon felt the sense of isolation melt away. Soon folks were smiling and telling stories. We were again the body of Christ.

I encourage you to use this forced isolation to pick up the phone and call friends. Give particular attention to those who are alone and those who are especially vulnerable to the virus. I appreciated Sue Evans recording and posting film of our members at Collington. When I make phone calls, I find people eager to talk. The seriousness of the moment has created a willingness to dispense with the trivial and to connect over deeper things. The author of *1 John 4:18* said it well, "There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear."

I was touched by the comments New York Governor Andrew Cuomo shared on television when asked about his daughter who was in isolation with the virus. *"To tell you the truth, I had some of the best conversations I've ever had. We talked about things in depth that we didn't have time to talk about in the past — or didn't have the courage or the strength to talk about in the past. I shared feeling I had about mistakes I had made along the way that I wanted to express — but never got around to saying."*

These serious and somber tones are appropriate for Holy Week. As I prepare my Holy Week sermons this year, I do not have to manufacture the anxiety Jesus felt as he made his way to the cross. The somber life and death fears we find in the Passion narrative can be ripped from the headlines. Besides fears for those who might die, there are real worries about people losing their jobs or their businesses. We have already heard from members who have been laid off or were forced to shut down their businesses. Our prayers are with you and together we will get through this time.

As Jesus headed to the cross, he focused his attention on his disciples. He listened to their fears and directly addressed their questions. He had at least one moment when he was worried if he could stay the course. In the garden of Gethsemane he momentarily wavered but then said, "Not my will, but thy will be done."

Maybe we can follow Jesus' example in these perilous times. Talk to those you love. Listen to their concerns. When you say your prayers each night, remember Jesus' promise to us, "Lo I will be with you always."

May the peace of Christ be with you always,

James Brassard

Send me your prayer concerns or questions at
ccpcpastor@verizon.net

Upcoming Worship Services (On-line Only)

Palm Sunday, April 5th at 10AM

No Maundy Thursday Services

April 10, Good Friday Service at 7PM

Easter Sunrise Service at 7AM

Easter Blended Service at 10AM

Birth

Congratulations to Jan and John Butler on a new great-granddaughter!
A healthy and beautiful baby girl named

Novalee Eden Jane Mitchell

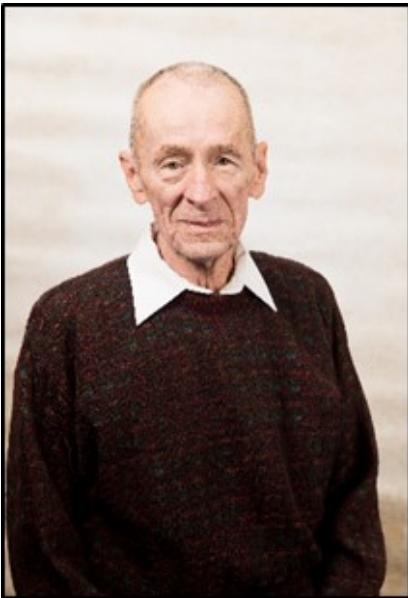
DOB: Tuesday, March 12, 2020

Time: 5:00 am

Weight: 8lbs, 11ozs

Congratulations, Jan & John!

Death



It is with deep sadness that we inform you of Joe Love's passing. Joe died at his home, surrounded by his loved ones, on Sunday, March 22.

Joe has been involved with CCPC for many years and he formally joined in 2008. He served CCPC in many ways, including being a deacon, taking care of the coffee for Sunday morning worship services, and was active in caring for the flower beds in front of the church.

Joe married his wife, Iris, on April 18, 1954. Iris was also a CCPC member and a big part of the church. She has been missed since her death on December 22, 2012. Two of their children, Diane and Brian, are members of CCPC and actively involved in the church.

We will miss you, Joe!

Due to the pandemic, there is no information regarding his memorial service. Once we find out, we will notify you. Until then, please keep the Love and Waak families in your prayers.

CCPC Updates

Please note that CCPC will be closed until further notice. Unfortunately, that means there will be no live Easter services, but you may join us online.

Follow us on Facebook for worship services:

<https://www.facebook.com/ChristianCommunityPresbyterianChurch/>

Easter Sunday, April 12, 2020

We will have a basket full of flowers beside the Cross in front of CCPC at 7:00 am. Feel free to come by and put a flower on the cross. Please remember social distancing, if others happen to be there putting flowers on the cross.

Coronavirus News, Phone Numbers, and Links

Follow CDC recommendations about hand washing hygiene, social distancing, and what to do if you suspect you may have COVID-19 (www.cdc.gov)

Consider using delivery or curbside pickup services for groceries and prescriptions

Grocery stores in our County have announced special **senior shopping hours** to assist our seniors with their shopping needs. Safeway hours are 7:00 AM to 9:00 AM on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Giant hours are 6:00 AM to 7:00 AM daily. Save-A-Lot hours are 7:00 AM to 8:00 AM daily.

School Children Meals: Grab & Go meals are available to Prince George's School System students weekdays at Benjamin Tasker Middle School and other schools; for details, visit www.pgcps.org.

Prince George's County Health Department COVID-19 Hotline: 301-883-6627

Maryland Department of Health Hotline: 410-767-6871

More information is available on the City's coronavirus page at www.cityofbowie.org/corona



One Great Hour of Sharing

Around the world, millions of people lack access to sustainable food sources, clean water, sanitation, education, and opportunity. Each gift to One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) helps to improve the lives of people in these challenging situations. The Offering provides us a way to share God's love with our neighbors in need. In fact, OGHS is the single, largest way that Presbyterians come together every year to work for a better world. OGHS, received during the season of Lent makes a difference in the world through three impactful programs: Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People.

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA)

Works alongside communities as they recover and find hope after the devastation of natural or human-caused disasters.

Presbyterian Hunger Program (PHP)

Takes action to alleviate hunger and the systemic causes of poverty so all may be fed.

Self-Development of People (SDOP)

Invests in communities responding to their experiences of racism, oppression, poverty and injustice and educates Presbyterians about the impact of these societal ills.

**CCPC will be joining forces with OGHS during
worship services online Palm Sunday, April 5th, and Easter Sunday, April 12th.**

Thank you for your support!

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.

