

Dear Members and Friends of CCPC,

In the season of Advent, we light candles of hope, peace, joy, and love – beautiful reminders of the attributes that can fill our lives when we follow the way of Christ.

But we also know that every season of life can be filled with grief, despair, and loss, and Advent is no different. These feelings do not dissipate simply because we turn the calendar page. In fact, these feelings can become even more acute when it seems as if everyone around us is merry and bright. After all, we are preparing to celebrate the most wondrous time of the year! A time of gift-giving, family gatherings, parties, and more. But not so much this year. Many of the holiday splendor we have come to expect will not be possible. This may be especially difficult for those in our community who live alone – please do show them extra love and care this season.

The National Capital Presbytery is doing something special to show extra love and care to CCPC this year. The Presbytery has given generous funding to make it possible for CCPC members and friends to receive grief counseling from the professionals at The Wendt Center, an internationally recognized counseling organization that guides communities through shared loss and trauma. In addition to a workshop and a training session (described elsewhere in *The Caller*), the center will provide three “Group Process Sessions” for CCPC members and friends. A Wendt Center clinician will facilitate these groups and help participants explore coping mechanisms for navigating grief during the holiday season, and during the COVID-19 pandemic. Each session will be limited to 15 people. The sessions will be held at these dates/times:

Monday, December 14, at 7 p.m.

Wednesday, December 16, at 10 a.m.

Thursday, December 17, at 3 p.m.

Here is the link to sign up for one of the groups: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/christian-community-presbyterian-church-process-groups-tickets-131556287397>

This is a generous and loving gift from our Presbytery, proof that even in times like these, God is Immanuel, God is with us. Perhaps this gift will allow us to more fully experience the Advent gifts of hope, peace, joy, and love.

Peace,
Pastor Susan

Advent Communion Service



Wednesday, Dec. 16, in the rear parking lot.
There will be two services, limited to 20 people per
service: one at 5:30 p.m., and one at 7 p.m.

Enjoy a service of lessons and carols with your CCPC family!

Communion will be served with prepackaged, sanitary elements.

Wear a mask and bring a chair.

Email the church office (ccpcbowie@verizon.net) to sign up to attend one of the services or leave a voicemail saying you will be attending. If the 20 person limit has been reached, Robin will give you a call; otherwise, you are good to go

Food Drive!



CCPC is working in partnership with the Chesapeake Chorale to collect canned and boxed food for the Bowie Food Pantry.

The food drive will take place at CCPC on
Saturday December 5th from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm.

Contact Debbie Sell – 301-809-5825 or Randal Mars 443-896-4895
with any questions.

Understanding Grief Workshop

Thursday, December 10th at 7:30pm

The past year has presented many losses. CCPC members and friends are invited to attend a special workshop to help us deal with our own grief and be present for others in their grief. Professionals from the Wendt Center will lead participants in better understanding grief and how the current pandemic impacts the grieving process. It will include exploration of the symptoms and styles of grief, how COVID-19 impacts grief, and ways to tend to those who are grieving. This workshop is designed to increase comfort and capacity to support each other and self in the grief process.

The Wendt Center is an internationally recognized counseling organization that guides communities through shared loss and trauma. Funding for this workshop is provided by a generous gift from the National Capital Presbytery as they seek to support CCPC members and friends. Please join us.

Topic: Understanding Grief Workshop

Time: Dec 10, 2020 07:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89987014585>

Meeting ID: 899 8701 4585

One tap mobile

+16465588656,,89987014585# US (New York)

+13017158592,,89987014585# US (Washington D.C)

Dial by your location

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington D.C)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

Meeting ID: 899 8701 4585

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89987014585>



Session Update

November 2020

Session created two new committees at the November meeting. The Race and Diversity Task Force has been upgraded to the Race and Diversity Committee since its work will require a long-term commitment. The new Technology Committee will oversee church computers, worship broadcasts, and other technology-related concerns.

Sam Guillermo is simplifying the church website to make it much easier for non-member visitors to browse. Detailed member information will be located elsewhere.

Session voted to commit CCPC to become a Matthew 25 congregation. This commitment emphasizes helping the hungry, the homeless, the prisoner, the outsider ... all those who suffer. Since this is a denominational emphasis, our church will receive support from National Capital Presbytery and the PCUSA.

Pastor Susan announced that the presbytery has awarded our congregation a grant from the Ministerial Relations Committee for grief counseling services through the Wendt Foundation. There will be sessions for elders, deacons and the congregation.

Lynn deSeve will lead the decorating of the outside of the church for Advent and Christmas. Since worship cannot be held indoors, she and the decorating crew will make sure that the outdoors proclaims the Good News of Christ's birth!

The food drive-by sponsored by Mission Committee and the Chesapeake Chorale has been moved to December 5th.

The Stewardship Committee has arranged online pledging for 2021 as well as regular pledge cards sent through the mail. Please make a pledge for 2021 if you are able.

The final outdoor cleanup date is December 12 from 8-12 noon. Come and help the Building and Grounds crew if you like outdoor work. Boy Scouts will again assist.



2021 Offering Envelopes



The 2021 weekly offering envelopes will be available at the church beginning the week of January 4, 2021. Weather permitting the boxed envelopes will be by the front door and under the awning from 11:00 am to 4:00 pm. Please phone (301-262-608) or email the church

(ccpcbowie@verizon.net or ccpconline@aol.com) if you need your offering envelopes mailed to you directly or if you no longer need offering envelopes. A contribution of \$5 will be appreciated to defray the cost of postage if you elect to have the pledge envelopes mailed to you."

Youth SCRIP Fundraiser

**DEADLINE IS
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5TH!**

As the holiday season approaches, the Youth Ministry will be doing another SCRIP fundraiser. It will look differently than it normally does because we aren't meeting in person, but the Youth Ministry is still hoping that people in our church family can help us raise money for the Youth Retreats and Special Events (such as Montreat and Mexico Mission trips). For those unfamiliar with SCRIP, you can order gift cards from your favorite retailers for your enjoyment, holiday gifts, etc.; and through the SCRIP program, the Youth Ministry receives a portion of the raised funds.

The fundraiser will run until December 5th. Please have your order forms and payment in by that date. Once your order comes in, you will be notified by email or phone, and Jane Mellow or Kristen McDermott will schedule delivery or pick up options with you.

Visit CCPC's Events page for information needed for participation in SCRIP. There will be 3 links: one to the list of Retailers, one to the Order form, and one to the DONATE link for the credit card payment option. If you would prefer to pay by check (add SCRIP to Memo line) or cash, you can mail it to or drop it off at CCPC.

Thank you for being involved in this tradition of Youth Ministry support. Although we couldn't have the summer retreats this year, hopefully we will be able to have one next year.

Sincerely,
Youth Ministry

Advent Festival!

Every Sunday morning of Advent at 11 a.m., via zoom, we will gather for an intergenerational celebration of the wonder and anticipation that fill the season of waiting. Come for the music, crafts, stories, ornaments, and more!

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88159787563?pwd=b3BoZk43ZXhMcFJGYUZWTkhPMmJWdz09>

Meeting ID: 881 5978 7563 Passcode: 2272

One tap mobile

+13017158592,,88159787563#,,,,,0#,,2272# US (Germantown)

+16465588656,,88159787563#,,,,,0#,,2272# US (New York)

Daily Lectionary!

A reading of the daily lectionary followed by prayers is available for members each day at 7:15am except Sunday.

You can directly access the readings here:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/71854500515>,

or through the lectionary link on this page:

<http://ccpc.bowiemd.org/news-for-members/announcements-info.html>.

The readings are live at 7:15 am and available recorded throughout the rest of the day and week.

Time and Talent Survey

Our church offers many opportunities to share our unique passions and skills. Please click [this link](#) to complete the Time and Talent survey and tell us your areas of interest and commitment. An Elder or Deacon will reach out to you.

"Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities; but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone.

To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good."

~ Corinthians 12: 4-7 ~

Virtual Concert!

Sunday, December 6th at 4:00pm the *Capital Ringers* will perform via Zoom.

Details are on our website's [Events page](#).

Weekly Activities!

Tuesdays at 7:30 – Straight from the Source Bible Study via Zoom (<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83257508911>)

Wednesdays at 5:30 – Outdoor Vespers Service in the rear parking lot (weather permitting). Bring a chair and wear a mask to enjoy this wonderful worship service which features music, prayers, scripture, and a brief meditation.

****Thursdays at 7:30** – All Church Gathering/Prayer Gathering via Zoom (<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87310740246>)

****Except for December 10th because we will be having the Understanding Grief Workshop****

Our Guatemalan Mission

As we all grapple with the reality of the COVID pandemic here in the U.S., our Guatemalan sisters and brothers are impacted more than we can imagine. Without government support, families are struggling to buy food, pay their rent, and many are being forced into homelessness or further overcrowding. COVID tests cost \$45 which is out of their reach. Without tourism, the artisans we work with have no way to sell. When we returned from our service in Guatemala, we began a small business - **Resilient Threads** - selling the sewing, weaving and beadwork of several cooperatives we got to know and love. We pay them fair wages and continue a close relationship. This is breaking our hearts! In the past two years, during the holiday season we have done church sales and other events. They have all been canceled. Thus, the website! It is not perfect, but it is in the spirit of helping through the sales of their handi-crafts that we offer these beautiful handmade goods to you. They are all bought and paid for and profits will continue to support Guatemala.

We are also continuing to gather financial support for necessities for the women in the cooperatives. If you are interested in helping, please email us at pbroyer1@gmail.com or send a check to: Sandi and Brian Thompson-Royer, 726 West 6th Avenue #302, Spokane, WA 99204. 100% of your donations will go back to Guatemala.

Please keep our friends in Guatemala in your hearts and prayers. We know there are many needs right now. We would be grateful for your purchases and/or donations. Enjoy the stories, pictures and products in our new website below! And....PLEASE share!

www.resilientthreadsguatemala.org

Peace and Hope,
Sandi and Brian Thompson-Royer



2021 Pledge Card!

Friendly Reminder

Please complete your 2021 PLEDGE CARDS!

If you have done so already — Thank You!

You can go to our website and complete the pledge card online OR you can email your proposed 2021 giving to ccpconline@aol.com OR you can print out the below card, fill out, and mail to the church or drop off in the 2021 Faith Expressions box in front of the church on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.

Pledge cards will also be on a table in front of the church on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

Any questions, please contact Susan Mather.

2021 Faith Expressions



My 2021 commitment is:

\$ _____

Annually Monthly Weekly

My preferred giving method: Offering plate Bill pay Online: <http://ccpc.bowiemd.org/>

Yes: Please provide me information about including CCPC in my estate plan

Name(s) _____

This commitment is strictly confidential, non-binding and may be revised or cancelled at any time.

Proportional Giving Guide

"Each one must do as he has made up his mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." 2 Cor 9:7

Annual Income	Weekly Giving as a Percentage of Annual Income											
	1%	2%	3%	4%	5%	6%	7%	8%	9%	10%	12%	15%
\$20,000	\$4	\$8	\$12	\$15	\$19	\$23	\$27	\$31	\$35	\$38	\$46	\$58
\$40,000	\$8	\$15	\$23	\$31	\$38	\$46	\$54	\$62	\$69	\$77	\$92	\$115
\$60,000	\$12	\$23	\$35	\$46	\$58	\$69	\$81	\$92	\$104	\$115	\$138	\$173
\$80,000	\$15	\$31	\$46	\$62	\$77	\$92	\$108	\$123	\$138	\$154	\$185	\$231
\$100,000	\$19	\$38	\$58	\$77	\$96	\$115	\$135	\$154	\$173	\$192	\$231	\$288
\$125,000	\$24	\$48	\$72	\$96	\$120	\$144	\$168	\$192	\$216	\$240	\$288	\$361
\$150,000	\$29	\$58	\$87	\$115	\$144	\$173	\$202	\$231	\$260	\$288	\$346	\$433
\$175,000	\$34	\$67	\$101	\$135	\$168	\$202	\$236	\$269	\$303	\$337	\$404	\$505
\$200,000	\$38	\$77	\$115	\$154	\$192	\$231	\$269	\$308	\$346	\$385	\$462	\$577

Christian Community Presbyterian Church



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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.

