



The Caller

August 1, 2014

I was very surprised when the former Pastor Nominating Committee opened the July 20th worship service with a skit about leadership. The skit was a takeoff on the fact that no one can adequately measure up to Jesus as a leader. Everyone has limitations. Moses had a stuttering problem. David had issues with married women. Joshua could have benefited from a GPS. It reminded me about one amazing pastor who did everything. Once he even walked on water, something that caused one of his regular critics to proclaim, "See, he can't even swim."

Last week I finished reading all the wonderful notes you wrote about experiences of my work with you. I am still getting cards and emails from those unable to attend the service. I put the notes and letters in my memories box. This box contains notes of Bible studies I prepared, funeral and wedding homilies I wrote, and other thank you notes I have kept during 30 years of ministry. Thank you for your kind words. It has been a joy to serve with you these ten years.

One of the evening programs on our Mediterranean cruise was introduced by old "Newlywed Game" host Bob Eubanks. He showed old clips from the show that began in the 1960's. What innocent times. Winners got a NEW washer and dryer or NEW bedroom furniture. Bob, who looks great at what must be 85 (and has a 10 year old son), had some interesting comments about relationships. I'll share a few.

He talked about the power of criticism. "Criticism is thick and love is thin." I think he meant that we tend to remember critical comments and obsess over them much longer than we do compliments. I think this is especially true when criticism comes from someone very close to you (a spouse or a parent or very close friend). He then added, "Criticism of your spouse is just another way of giving yourself a backhanded compliment." Think about that one next time you prepare to offer some constructive feedback to your spouse or child. Do we cut down others in order to build up ourselves? A better way to help improve the attitude and behavior of someone you love who seems to be having a bad day is to ask them, "Is there anything I can do for you?"

Bob's final piece of marital wisdom was in the following statement. "You can save yourself a lot of time and money in marriage counseling if you can honestly answer one question: What is it like to be married to you?" After pondering that one, maybe ask yourself the related questions: What is it like to work for you? What is it like to have you for a parent?

Continue to enjoy the summer and focus on nurturing those important relationships in your life. It is time well spent.

Grace and peace,

James Brassard



Worship Notes

August 3rd:

Communion will be served. Worship in Dodds Hall. The Feeding of the 5000 is the only miracles story recorded in all four gospels. What makes this story so important for Jesus and for the church? Title of the Sermon is "You can do this ... I can help." We will commission the Habitat for Humanity Work Team.

August 10th:

There is a tendency if you don't like the news to criticize the messenger. In the Bible, God's people are often dissatisfied with God's leadership. The people often put God to the test. Texts are Exodus 17:1-7 and Matthew 21:23-32



August Sunday Calendar

Sunday, August 3, 2014

Almost Heaven Habitat for Humanity WV Begins
9:15 AM Choir Rehearsal -- Dodds Hall
10:00 AM Worship -- Dodds Hall

Sunday, August 10, 2014

9:15 AM Choir Rehearsal -- Sanctuary
10:00 AM Worship -- Sanctuary
10:30 AM Sunday Morning Connect: Jr. and Sr. High
11:00 AM Clusters 2, 3, 5, 8, 11, 12, 14 -- Dodds Hall
6:30 PM Youth Group -- Sr. High Room
7:00 PM Chesapeake Chorale Bd Mtg -- Adult Ed Conf Rm

Sunday, August 17, 2014

9:15 AM Choir Rehearsal -- Sanctuary
10:00 AM Worship -- Sanctuary
11:00 AM Clusters 7, 13, and 15 Gathering -- Dodds Hall

Sunday, August 24, 2014

9:15 AM Choir Rehearsal -- Sanctuary
10:00 AM Worship w/Blessing of Backpacks -- Sanctuary
10:30 AM Sunday Morning Connect: Jr. and Sr. High
1:00 PM CCPC Annual Crab Feast -- Allen Pond
6:30 PM Youth Group -- Sr. High Room

Sunday, August 31, 2014

9:15 AM Choir Rehearsal -- Sanctuary
10:00 AM Worship -- Sanctuary
11:00 AM Ice Cream Social -- Dodds Hall

Congratulations New Grandbaby!

Welcome
Lily Jean Bence
born July 16, 2014

Congratulations to her proud parents Carrie and Brad Bence, big brother Finn,
and her proud maternal grandparents Peggy and Skip Oates!



Happy Anniversary!

Ken and Patty Adams will celebrate their 56th wedding anniversary.
Happy Anniversary, Patty and Ken!

New Contact Information

Please note that Helen Bujac's new contact information is:

Helen Bujac
Heartlands of Severna Park
715 Benfield Rd. Ste 111
Severna Park, MD 21146
Cell: 410-353-1863
Rm: 410-729-5918



Thank You So Much!

I want to thank everyone who sent such thoughtful expressions of concerns during my recent mishap, which left me with two souvenir broken ribs. I am definitely on the mend and I was touched by all your comforting gestures very much.

Love and light,
Joan Pitkan Bevan

To All CCPC Family and Friends,

Jon and I can't thank you enough for the thoughts and prayers for our daughter Erin and her baby son Kian. I have just returned from five and half months in Raleigh, NC due to Kian being physically abused by his father in the first two months of his life. Erin had to struggle with a custody battle for five months, is dealing with separation and divorce, and the father's criminal issues should soon be resolved. We were blessed to be able to be there for Erin and Kian during this ordeal. I am happy to report they are both doing extremely well and are moving forward. Please continue to pray for them.

Sharon and Jon Youngdahl

10th Anniversary Celebration for **Pastor Brassard**

On July 20th, Pastor Brassard was surprised when a supposed minute for mission announcement became a skit of remembrance by the Pastor Nominating Committee that originally called him to CCPC. In a clever way they recounted their search and discussions of the qualities of the candidates being considered and how they arrived at James being called to serve at CCPC. At the conclusion everyone was invited to a pot luck luncheon in Dodds Hall to honor his ten years of service to this congregation.

Waiting for him in a crowded Dodds Hall were many tables full of delicious food, colorful decorations, and a gift bag full of thank you notes from members and friends of CCPC who knew James during his ministry at the church. Another highlight of the luncheon was the presentation of a monetary appreciation gift donated by the congregation.

James was definitely surprised, but pleased by all the activities commemorating his ten years of service to CCPC. He already knew that CCPC houses many gifts and talents among the congregation and he logged another one, keeping secrets, this past Sunday.

Thank you again, James, for your caring service to CCPC.



CCPC Annual Crab Feast

Sunday, August 24 (1-4pm)

ALLEN POND PARK (West Pavilion)

Note Change of Place

Cost is \$25 for adults eating crabs,
\$10 for kids under 12 or adults not eating crabs,
children under 6 free.

Crabs, chicken, corn, and watermelon will be provided. Bring your own drinks and utensils. Tickets will go on sale after church starting August 3rd!

Hope to see you there!

Contact Barbara Engh at
bengh1@verizon.net or (301)906-6850

New this year:
Family Olympics!
Fun for all ages!



Covenant Circle

The Covenant Circle is changing its meeting day back to the first Wednesday of each month. The September meeting will be on September 3rd at 10 AM in the Parlor. For those of you who are unfamiliar with the Covenant Circle, it is a group of seniors who have a strong network of caring relationships. They enjoy time together, sharing and growing as well as welcoming new members. All are welcome. We hope you will come join us. For more information on Covenant Circle, please contact Sarah Hyde at 301-262-6819.

Call to the Men of CCPC

The men's Saturday morning book club is getting ready to start a new book and we invite you to join us for coffee and fellowship. The book we'll be reading is *God's Politics: Why the Right Gets It Wrong And The Left Doesn't Get It* by Jim Wallis.

We meet at 7:00 AM every other Saturday morning at the Panera Bread in Bowie Town Center.

On Saturday, August 2nd, we'll be discussing the first chapter. Interested? Contact Jim Sherrick.

Gadabouts Pot Luck!

The Gadabouts will get together at noon on Tuesday, August 5th for a pot luck lunch at Marge Clark's home. Join them and bring a dish to share.

All are welcome!

Memorial Garden Brick Ceremony

Brick Order Deadline

The Memorial Garden Brick Ceremony will be held after the 10 AM church service on Sunday, October 5th.

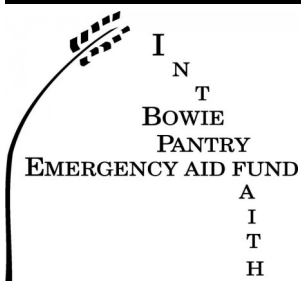
The deadline for brick orders is by Noon Friday, August 15th.

Please note this is a strict deadline as time is needed for the orders to be processed, the bricks to be made, delivered to the shop, picked up, and laid in the pathway.

Bricks are \$50.00 each.

The order forms are in the church office.

For more information, please contact
Robin in the church office
email ccpcbowie@verizon.net or by phone
(301) 262-6008.



Bowie Interfaith Pantry

CCPC Donations

IMPORTANT NOTICE:

Please do not include donations to the Bowie Food Pantry with your CCPC contributions.

If you would like to donate to the Food Pantry, please send directly to them at:

The Bowie Interfaith Pantry
2614 Kenhill Drive, Suite 134, Bowie, MD 20715
To contact the Pantry, please call (301) 262-6765

Thank you!



There will be no mid-month caller for August. The next Caller will be sent out on September 1st.
Please have all articles in by 9 AM on Tuesday, August 26th. Any questions, please call the office.

A letter from Nancy Dimmock in Zambia

Papayas and lemons are in season! And there's nothing like a fresh papaya with a freshly squeezed lemon from the lemon tree for breakfast. YUM! I will miss the tropics. And we will all miss the wonderful blessing that this house (THANK YOU, Ellington Family!!) and location have been. We were in the middle of the Justo Mwale Seminary community with a playground and football pitch and built-in playmates, and with the house nestled in a grove of mango, banana, lemon and papaya trees, and fully furnished. It has been a gift of huge proportions.

And, despite our short stay in Zambia, we have developed good friendships. I have been so impressed with the passion, commitment and hard work displayed by my colleagues in the HIV/AIDS Youth Department and by the Synod Executive. Their desire is to serve the church and to deal with their partners with integrity. They developed a proposal—which was approved and funded by the PC(USA)—to resource the Central Africa Presbyterian (CCAP) Synod of Zambia pastors and youth workers with HIV/AIDS materials. With these funds they are developing a central library of resources, but in response to a cry from the congregations are also developing mini libraries that are being shared at the presbytery level. Emeria Zgambo is one of the staff in the department who is introducing these resources at presbytery gatherings around the country. Everywhere she has been the resources are deeply appreciated, but they are asking that they be copied for each congregation—to make them even more accessible. They are absolutely hungry for these materials. What a joy to have the means already in place to respond to this need (THANK YOU, PC(USA) Africa Office!).



Emeria with the mini libraries of HIV/AIDS resources



New friends and colleagues of CCAP Synod of Zambia

The Young Adult Volunteer program is moving forward. Four young women who applied were assigned to pioneer the program here in Zambia—and the folks here are excited and ready to welcome them. They will be working in various community schools associated with CCAP congregations around the city of Lusaka. They will be staying with host families, giving them the opportunity to truly become a part of a Zambian family and the local church community. It will be such a wonderful blessing for all involved.

The Dimmock children are in their final days of school. Isaac will be graduating from primary school in a special ceremony on June 18. And he will receive a sports award at the School Awards Ceremony on the 19th. Alifa is saying goodbye to all of her new best friends—both at school and at the international youth group. And Jackson is also busy trying to say his good-

bye as well. One of his best friends, Thandi, wanted our cat, Bob, so that has cemented their friendship. Apparently Bob has settled in well in his new home.



Alifa with her energetic, international youth group leader, "Miss Sue"



Isaac and Jackson at the Lusaka International Community School

We leave Lusaka on June 22 and will travel to Lesotho for two weeks, where I will help to host a mission team coming from Mobile, Ala. Andrew finishes school in Lesotho on July 4, and we will all fly together to the States on the 7th. We are looking forward to reuniting with Daddy Frank in Louisville, Ky., and making our new home there. But FIRST we have a wedding to attend! Our oldest daughter, Jesse, will be married to Saul Huber in Illinois on July 12. Lots of happy family times ahead.

But right now it is time to say farewell. How does one say farewell to deep friendships, a continent, a way of life, home? Perhaps the key is in the word "farewell." It is an expression of good wishes at parting—may you fare well. That is my prayer. May you, my new friends and colleagues at the CCAP Synod of Zambia, fare well. May you, my dear friend and sister in Christ, Mamonyane Mohale, and all of the precious children at the Ministry of Hope Lesotho, fare well. May you, Elsie Kumwenda, Mwawi

Nyirongo, and all who care for the most vulnerable ones in Malawi, be encouraged and fare well. May you, my missionary colleagues and friends serving throughout the continent, keep on in faithfulness and fare well.

I know you will, because God is with you and in you. You will continue to do great things and will move from strength to strength. But I will miss you.

Someone recently shared this quote online: *"You will never be completely at home again, because part of your heart will always be elsewhere. That is the price you pay for the richness of living and loving people in more than one place"* (Mick+Wout). And each of YOU is so worth that price.

May you fare well!

Nancy Dimmock and family

Peacemaking **Offering**

A Season of Peace — September 7 through October 5

The Peacemaking Offering helps fund the Presbyterian Peacemaking Program, which actively works at transforming cultures of violence into communities of peace with International Peacemakers, educational events, and ongoing advocacy.

This year's Offering, which aligns with A Season of Peace, encourages nonviolent solutions and provides opportunities to give witness to God's gift of peace at the local, national, and global level. Please support and promote this offering. Help make it a time to renew our congregation's commitment to creating a peaceful and loving world.

DID YOU KNOW:

The Presbyterian peacemaking program has been an organized effort committed toward pursuit of a peaceful world

The Peacemaking Offering is one of two Special Offerings that allow congregations to keep a portion of the money raised for use in their local communities

A Season of Peace is a four-week peace pilgrimage that includes important dates, such as

- 911 Commemoration ▪
- International Day of Peace (Sept. 21) ▪
- World Communion Day (Oct. 5) ▪

The Offering applied \$543,559 of dollars raised toward integral operational expenses like materials and program support. With gifts from you and congregations like yours, the Offering can continue its mission of peacemaking efforts and bearing witness to God's gift of peace in the world.

TOTAL 2013 OFFERINGS = \$1,968,370.00!

This money was given by the Peacemaking Offering to help find peaceful solutions to all types of conflict throughout the world.

\$656,694.00 of your contributions promoted peace through support of the Presbyterian Peacemaking Program and the Presbyterian Ministry at the United Nations. The Peacemaking Program provides training, resources, worship, and Bible study material for transforming cultures of violence into communities of peace.

\$965,231 makes up 25% of funds kept by congregations to support local peacemaking efforts. And, an additional 25% of funds are kept by synods and presbyteries to support diverse peacemaking projects.

Here are some of the ways congregations use their 25% of the Peacemaking Offering on behalf of those struggling through oppression and injustice:

- † Create a conflict resolution program for local high schools
- † Support the "Red Hand Campaign," a program advocating for ending the practice of child soldiers
 - † Work with a support center for males transitioning out of prison or homelessness
- † Implement a backpack program, sending food home with school children over the weekends
 - † Help fund educational assistance for Veterans
 - † Work with young women who are in correctional facilities
 - † Volunteer at a summer youth program
- † Donate to "A Place to Sleep," a program providing beds for children

**Will hope you will continue to
support us in our Peacemaking Offering this year.**

Christian Community Presbyterian Church



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Bowie, MD 20715
Phone (301) 262-6008
Fax (301) 262-5177
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.*



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



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 Ann@ImagineThePlace.com. Scholarships available.

