



The Sunday November 8th Outlook section of the Washington Post did a hatchet job on the Baby Boomer Generation. Boomers are Americans born right after the end of World War II up through 1962: current ages 51-69. This group includes me. They were criticized for forcing us to endure endless Baby Boomer nostalgia for everything 1960's. Jim Tankersley went on to say that Boomers represent everything that's wrong with the American economy. Sally Abrahms was given the task of dispelling Five Myths about the 75.4 million Boomers in the United States. Abrahms gave a halfhearted rebuttal of the assumptions, in part, that my generation is selfish, arrogant, wealthy, and we don't have any sex. Wow!

In the past, I defended the equally disturbing and also inaccurate stereotypical put down of the Millennial Generation (ages 18-34). They are supposed to be lazy, insist on ascending to leadership positions without paying their dues, are prone to taking frequent mental health days, and of course, like to mooch off their indulgent Boomer parents. See it's always the Boomers fault. It seems like the only generation you cannot attack is the Generation Tom Brokaw famously named the Greatest Generation (ages 88 and up.)

The question I have is why play the blame game? When we examine the economic changes we face today, why not examine the impact of globalization. One of the reasons the Greatest Generation was able to dominate the post war era was we were the only first world power that didn't have their economic resources devastated by the war. We were greater than everyone else in the 1950s and 1960s' because we just didn't have any real competition until Japan, Germany, and Korea started to catch up. Globalization has driven wages down around the world and forced American workers to compete with two billion hard striving people from India, China, and South Korea. In the 50's and 60's you just had to be better than the bottom quarter of your high school class to get a well-paying job. Now Millennials who are in the top 10% of their college class find themselves working at Starbucks or driving for Uber.

What all the American generations seem to have in common is our inability to do basic math. The laser focus on the Boomers is primarily due to the fact that we are a very large group, we are living longer, and that is very expensive. All the costly advances in health care, and our denial of death, will cost far more than we have paid into Medicare. Since we are living longer, we will have to adjust how we pay for social security. We have faced this before and raised social security taxes when Present Reagan and Speaker Tip O'Neil cut a deal in 1983. Now compromise for the public good is considered treasonous in some political circles. We knew this was coming. We just refuse to admit we have to pay for things. Why do we cap payroll taxes at \$117,000 and thus reduce the effective tax rate on the top 5% of earners to a rate below the lower third of earners?

The nation, not just members of the Greatest Generation, did some important things after World War II. They invested heavily in the future. The sense of shared sacrifice required from the long war produced a unified people. It showed us what we can accomplish if we admit we are in this together. We also paid for things as we went along. Sadly, we are still afflicted by Supply Side economics (we now call it "Dynamic Scoring") and you can blame that one on the Gipper. He hailed from Brokaw's hallowed generation.

I would have been really offended if I didn't read the Sunday New York Times and its special section on "Giving." The articles focused on the work of major philanthropic organization taking aim at big picture issues like poverty, climate change, and reforming the criminal justice system. It focused on the wave of Baby Boomers leaving the work force and donating generously of their time and money. They had a Q and A with Marc Benioff, the young CEO of Salesforce (Gen Xer), who has made charity part of his company's organizational chart. Of course Benioff couldn't resist taking a shot at Boomer icon Bill Gates who built Microsoft into the world's largest company and then at age 42 devoted himself, and his fortune, full time to charitable work. "If people said Marc was the head of a software company and is NOW a philanthropist" that would be a failure. Oh well. Even the NFL doesn't penalize for piling on. At least we had several reports about the millions of talented people unselfishly giving of their time and treasure instead of pitting one group of Americans against another. Any sign of hope is a nice reprieve from those serving up anger and fear.

Grace and truth,

James Brassard

P.S. We had a good start to our Stewardship drive. If you missed it pickup a pledge drive card in the church office or fill one out by the end of November.

ALSO . . .

The Community Thanksgiving Eve Service is
Wednesday, November 25th at 7:30 PM at
St. Matthews United Methodist Church
14900 Annapolis Rd., Bowie, MD

And . . .

Don't Forget . . .

**The SCRIPT Cards Fundraiser
Is Happening Now!**

**Visit our Youth in the Atrium after
Sunday worship service.**

**The last day to purchase will be
Sunday, Nov. 22nd!**

Worship Notes

November 22nd: Is the writing of a personal thank you note a lost art? Is being thankful unnatural? Paul says "give thanks in all circumstances." Is it possible to learn thankfulness? Can this change your life? Text is *1 Thessalonians 5: 12-22*

November 29th: One service only at 10:30 AM. First Sunday in Advent. Our Director of Christian Education Justin Devine is preaching. Brief congregational meeting at 10:20 AM to elect an elder to serve an unexpired term. Please join us after church for a light lunch and to help decorate the church for Christmas.

Welcome!

Nolan Benjamin Remley

Nolan was born on Tuesday, November 10th at 5:23 AM.

He weighed 7 pounds, 11 ounces and was 51 cm long.

Congratulations to proud first-time parents

Irene and Ryan Remley!



Tiger Lilies

The Tiger Lilies next meeting is December 7th at 7:30 PM in the Parlor.

We will discuss "The Boys in the Boat" by Daniel James Brown.

Here is a short clip about the book:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n58w0BctOvs>

The Bowie library has multiple copies available including audio CDs.

Happy Reading!

Andrea Brassard

andreabrassard@verizon.net

Gadabouts

The Gadabouts are meeting at Carrabba's in Bowie at 12 Noon on Tuesday, December 15th. All are welcome, but reservations are needed, so please contact Marge Clark at 410-451-0833 if you are interested.

In Memoriam of



Helen Bujac

Helen died peacefully in her sleep at her home at Heartlands on Friday, November 6, 2015. We celebrated Helen's life on Saturday, November 14 at 11 AM in the Sanctuary. Our thoughts and prayers are with the Bujac family.



PRESBYTERIAN
WOMEN

PWOC Christmas Potluck

On Sunday, December 6th, after the 10:30 AM worship service, the Women of CCPC will gather in Dodds Hall for a Christmas potluck. Bring a dish to share and be prepared to tell the ladies at your table about a special Christmas or a favorite family tradition. We are delighted to have a musical program provided for us by some very talented young CCPC women. You won't want to miss this opportunity for food, fellowship, and entertainment! All women of the church are invited.

Christmas Market Update

Thank you to everyone who helped make this year's Christmas Gift Market a success. \$20,055 has been raised so far for local and around the world mission projects. Thank you to Lillian Cates and Barbara Engh for helping us set up the table on the Saturday before the market. Thank you to Jim Woods, Marjorie and Charles Tanner, Skip and Peggy Oates, Priscilla Bouic, Jackie Lindbeck, Justin Devine, Donnie Phillips, Gary Allen, Dick Baker, Dick Arnold, Julia Leaman, Paul and Debbie Sell, Jo Bolig, and Hanna Mayer for sitting at the tables and explaining their mission projects to the children and those shopping for gift ideas. Thank you to Cyd Radden-Lesage for all the tallying she did. Also to Marge Clark, Shirley Cooke, Chris Campbell, and Myrna Webb as cashiers. Betty Haeussler, Deb Cooper, and Rose Marie Rice who handed out the greeting cards to coincide with the mission projects. Thank you to those who helped color the greeting cards for the table. Thank you also to those that helped color some new Christmas cards for the CLAWS table: Bea Uehling, Ella Rice, Rose Marie Rice, Gloria Godfrey, Betty Haeussler, Sue Mather, Kerryaine Hiller, and Ellen Wimbush.

There were three items made for a silent auction bid. Frances Rocha made and donated two afghans with the proceeds going to the Christmas Families. Priscilla Bouic made and donated a shawl with the proceeds going to the Honduras Water Project. A HUGE thank you to Debbie Sell and her helpers for a wonderful soup luncheon for everyone to enjoy. She received lots of compliments for her soup selections. They raised \$298 with all their good soups.

Thank you also to those of you who donated money to the following Mission Projects:

Church World Service	\$1095.
Medical Benevolence Foundation	\$880.
CCPC Habitat for Humanity Projects	\$800.
Heifer International	\$850.
Bowie Volunteer Fire Dept.	\$579.
Amor Youth Mission Trip	\$525.
Community Crisis Response	\$405.
Presbyterian Disaster Assistance	\$1,390.
St. Matthew's Building Corp.	\$745.
Dick Arnold Photo Table	\$730.
CCPC Honduras Water Project	\$8,190.
CCPC Honduras Mission Workers	\$10.
Honduras Educational Program	\$700.
Operation Christmas Child	\$341.
Bowie CLAW	\$455.
Literacy at the Well	\$854.
St. Matthew's Alpha House	\$654.
Mission Committee	\$177
Warm Nights	\$125
Christmas Families	\$532

Thank you, thank you!

Sharon McNamara and Kris Ross

Christmas Families **Update**

2015 is year 34 of CCPC's Annual Christmas Families Program. We receive referrals of families in need from the Prince George's County Public Schools and the Bowie Interfaith Food Pantry. The video below was made last year by Caitlin Shoemaker and her friend Sara as a project for their Girl Scout Cadet program. These girls did a great job capturing the essence of this valuable outreach program to our community:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CIVVgZyCCh4>

This year we have 45 families for a total of 128 children. I am pleased to report that all the children have been sponsored after just two weeks, but there are many other ways you can help!

Here are some important dates and deadlines:

- Nov. 22—Dec. 6 Early Gift Drop Off in Library. Please include ID Number and Name on all packages
- Sunday, Dec. 6 Gifts Due. Final Deadline for Gift Drop Off by 12 Noon
- Wednesday, Dec. Setup Dodds Hall for Gift Sorting and Wrapping from 9PM—10PM
- Thursday, Dec. 10 Sort and Check Gifts 9AM—5PM and Sort, Check, and Wrap Gifts 6—9PM
- Friday, Dec. 11 Gift Wrapping from 9AM—3PM and 5—9PM (bring your own scissors, tape, pen)
Pickup Food from Aldi's at 2PM
- Saturday, Dec. 12 Gift Wrapping from 9AM—2PM (bring your own scissors, tape, pen)
Reset Dodds Hall for Food Sorting at 2PM
- Sunday, Dec. 13 Baked Goods Due by 11:30AM / Food Sorting 11:30AM—1PM
Consolidate Gifts & Groceries 1—2:30PM
- Monday, Dec. 14 Pickup Food at Aldi's at 7AM / Family Pickup/Delivery at 9AM—1PM and 6PM—9PM
- Tuesday, Dec. 15 Pickup/Delivery Makeup Day, if needed from 9AM—Noon / Cleanup Dodds Hall

Also look for the "Volunteer Opportunities" sign up charts in the church atrium or just show up at any of the days/times listed. There's room for everyone!

I have had the privilege and the honor of serving as Christmas Families coordinator for the past eight years. It is time for me to step down and make room for the next person. If you have a heart for mission, a mind for details, and -- most importantly -- are willing to wear reindeer antlers, this could be the job for you!

Feel free to contact me with any questions you may have.

Roxanne Johnson
CCPC Christmas Families Coordinator

Merry Christmas to All!



Clean Water University Graduates!



Last month, Paul Sell and I graduated from the 50th class of Clean Water University! Clean Water U is the training component of the Living Waters for the World (LWW) ministry. Thank you all for your prayers and well wishes for our safe travels to the training which was held at the Camp Hopewell in Oxford, MS. See this link from PCUSA.org for more details about our class and some additional pictures from our experience.

<https://www.pcusa.org/news/2015/10/27/clean-water-u-completes-50th-training/>

I took the workshop on water project management (Class 101) and Paul took the workshop on the systems installation (Class 103). Others at CCPC have been trained in these workshops as well as in the education/hygiene workshop (Class 102).

The training was terrific and exceeded our expectations! We met so many amazing people from all over the United States. Throughout the four-day training you get to know all participants and instructors in the classes even if they are not in your workshop because we all eat together and worship together. The instructors are all volunteers that come back year after year. There were 43 participants total in our class, including a group from Bogota, Colombia. Some of the trainees had quite a lot of experience installing water systems and others were just learning about the ministry for the first time. One of the best parts of the experience was making the connections with others at the training and hearing lessons learned during water installations all over the world.

The most important thing that I learned from the class is how empowering these water systems are to the remote communities in which they are installed. Although we help them install the water system and get things going, the community takes ownership and operates the system themselves. In addition, we start the training on health and hygiene and it is the community members that continue that training. The goal is to install practical, sustainable water systems. The result is pure, clean water for a generation!

Paul and I are the new members of the experienced team from CCPC that will travel to Honduras to install CCPC's 6th water system. The other team members are Chuck and Marjorie Tanner, Judyann Feinstein, Sara Rogel, and Becca Jonas. The dates of our trip are January 15 – 23, 2016 so keep those prayers coming. If you would like to know more about this LWW ministry, please contact us!

Blessings,
Julia Leaman

Christian Community Presbyterian Church



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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

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 Ann@ImagineThePlace.com. Scholarships available.

