NEWS FROM CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

April 1, 2013

The Caller

diehard Chicago Cubs fan once said, "Life begins on Opening Day." This year, Easter and the first day of the Major League Baseball season fall on March 31st. A few years ago, I finally figured out one of the reasons I love baseball. Opening Day signals the beginning of spring and the end of the World Series inaugurates the beginning of winter. Except for Christmas, I could do without the other months of the year. As a child I came to equate Easter and the beginning of baseball season with hope, rebirth, and healing. Perhaps I have been overly influenced by "Peanuts" creator Charles Schultz.

I still play church softball in the spring and summer. Not well. I'm a defensive liability and a constant double play risk. I am not the only old guy in the local church softball league. I have a seminary friend (read: another old white male) who lives in Canada who plays in a CHURCH HOCKEY league. Yikes! His team mantra is, "Play hard tonight, but make it to work in the morning." Amen to that.

Easter is about many things: Eternal life, Salvation, a second chance in life. Gary Wills suggests it is really about God "mending us." This healing work of God is both a personal and a societal work. This healing is a creative work that takes many forms. These forms, however, follow the mysterious pattern of dying and rising, of living and healing, that humans have witnessed through the centuries. As Christians, we have a model for healing in the life of Jesus. Richard Rohr in his book "Falling Upward," says the "genius of the gospel is that it includes the problem inside the solution. The falling became the standing. The stumbling became the finding. The dying became the rising."

It wasn't until sometime after the shock of the crucifixion and resurrection that the disciples began to understand this pattern by which God in Christ was mending us into the new creation. Once the disciples discovered this pattern, they were able to start following the same road Jesus took in life. When hard times came, they waited with expectation for a new dawn. In good times and bad, they trusted Christ to walk alongside them.

In this Easter season may our Risen Lord open our hearts to compassion for those who are suffering and grieving. May we always be guided by Jesus as he leads us in doing God's mending work.

Grace and peace,

James Brassard





Worship Notes

<u>April 7th:</u> .Second Sunday of Easter. Gary Cox will preach on John 20:19-31, about the well known story of Jesus appearing to Thomas. He has a great opening story. Dick Neff and Hal Pease will preside at the communion table (no grapes!).

<u>April 14th:</u> Third Sunday of Easter. Psalm 30 says, "Weeping may linger for the night, but joy comes in the morning." The sermon is on "Easter Joy" which I will really be feeling after a week in the warm California sunshine.

Time to Get Ready for the

Spring Share Shop!

Our spring Share Shop will be Saturday morning, May 11 from 7:30 AM until 10:30 AM in Dodds Hall.

This is a good time to clean out your closets!

If you no longer want clothing, household items, books, records, toys, etc, <u>AND</u> they are in good enough shape to give to a friend,

then bring them to the church during the week of May 6 and leave them in the corner of Dodds Hall.

On Saturday morning, come and see if there are any items you'd like to take home. We open the doors to the general public at 9:00 AM so come early for the best selections.

Spring Cleaning



It's that time of year again!

CCPC will be doing their annual Spring cleanup on Saturday, April 6 from 9 AM to Noon. We will be weeding and mulching. If you can't make it that day and want to participate, you can come in earlier that week and do some weeding — that would be a big help in preparing for the mulching.

Free to a Good Home!

The following two items are looking for a good home.

- 1.) Scanmaker X6EL scanner-this is a good working scanner
- 2.) HP Deskjet 810C—this is a fair working printer.

Both have installation CDs and both are about 15 years old, but still function.

If interested please contact Priscilla Bouic 301-262-4906.

If no interest, you might just see us at the Share Shop!

CCPC Knitters

There are two new scarf patterns in the clear plastic upright holder on the announcement table in the Atrium. Please feel free to take any of the patterns for your own use and to use for a scarf to donate for the Christmas families parents. We have received some nice donated yarn that is available for anyone to use for our scarf project.

The CCPC *Knits with Sticks* group continues to meet on the third Monday of the month at 1:00 PM in the Parlor. Please feel free to join us anytime.

For information regarding *any of the above news* please contact Priscilla Bouic.



CCPC Crab Feast! Hold the Date: 8/25/2013

Thank You!

Dear CCPC family and friends,

Thank you for the prayers and amazing number of cards, visits, plants, and food we've received in the last three months. They went a long way in raising my spirits though my body is proving a little reluctant. I will continue through the AAMC Pulmonary Rehabilitation program hoping to rebuild my strength. We are grateful to all who showed such concern and compassion and for your prayers. God Bless you all.

Jackie Smith



Updated rosters were distributed in December. Several errors were identified and the correct information is listed below. Please update your directory. If you have any questions, please see Margaret. She also has additional directories if you need one.

Cable, Karen

551 Retreat Court Apt. C Odenton, MD 21113

Horrom, Eloise Phone number: 301-890-5166

Kost, Merle 3106 Gracefield Road Apt. 1533 Silver Spring, MD 20904

> Metcalfe, Sharon jmet_20000@yahoo.com

Onwuteaka, Christian and Queen 11202 Lake Victoria Lane Bowie, MD 20720 <u>cioqueenn@gmail.com</u>

> Marshall Saylors marshallsaylors@gmail.com



Memorial Service

There will be a memorial service for Patricia Primm to celebrate her life on Saturday, April 13th at 11 AM in the Sanctuary.

Our thoughts and prayers are with the Primm family.

May your CCPC family and friends be of comfort; may faith uphold you; and may loving memories help to heal your heart.



Thank Mou!

To my CCPC family,

Words cannot adequately express my deep appreciation for all of the condolences, support, and assistance you gave to me and my family as we mourned and celebrated my mother, Betty Cartin.

The memorial service was wonderful and I could not have done it without the staff, Deacons, Discovery Circle Sisters, and others.

Blessings and thanks to all!

Barbara Engh



CCPC Emergency Response Committee

would like to call attention to the following Public Safety Notices from the City of Bowie and the City of Bowie Police Department:

"Public Safety Notice Alert #1AC" Beware of Individuals Posing as Utility Workers Don't Open the Door to Strangers

Residents should be wary of a scam in which individuals impersonate utility workers, according to a recently filed police report in the Bowie area. Be suspicious of **anyone** who arrives at your home without an appointment asking to check an appliance, checking for gas leaks, performing maintenance or suggesting that there may be some electrical problem inside a residence. Typically, appointments are scheduled for these issues. If the individual is claiming to be a utility worker, electrician, etc., immediately ask for credential verification. Call the company and verify that the person is supposed to be at your residence.

Identification should include their name, picture, name of the company and company seal. If they refuse to provide identification **DO NOT LET THEM INSIDE YOUR HOME AND DIAL 911.** If someone calls and requests you to leave your residence at a specific time for a utility related cause, call the police. This could be a burglary set up by the caller.

Please share this message with all in your household. Allowing a stranger to enter your home without proper identification may prove dangerous. For additional ways you can remain safe, please contact Sergeant Henderson at (301) 575-1824.

Public Alert from the Bowie Police Department

The Bowie Police Department would like to remind residents to stay with their vehicles when the engine is running. Criminals are on the look out for vehicles that can be easily stolen. This week three vehicles were stolen in Bowie while they were warming up.

Leaving your car running while unattended is against the law and subject to a \$70 fine.

To receive free alerts visit their website at http://alert.cityofbowie.org.

Be Smart! Keep Safe!



April Special: Cleaning Supplies.

Toilet bowl cleaners, dishwashing detergent, all purpose cleaners, etc. would be appreciated. Thank you for your support!

April Food Items Greatest Needs

Food item needs are canned fruit/applesauce; rice; pork and beans; baked beans; 100% juice (bottles or boxes); macaroni and cheese; and jelly

Car Raffle to Benefit Food Pantry!

Frances Rocha is selling tickets on behalf of the Pantry for the St. Mary Car Raffle to benefit St. Mary's Grade School. The Pantry will receive half of the proceeds from tickets through the Pantry as well as \$1,000 for a winning ticket. The drawing is May 8th. Tickets are \$5 each and automatically enter you into four drawings for four cars: 2013 Lincoln MKZ; 2013 Ford Mustang; 2013 Ford Fusion; 2013 Ford Escape! For more information or to buy tickets, please contact Francis at 301-262-5909.

Community Gardens Volunteer Opportunity

Last year, volunteers planted vegetables and herbs in the three raised beds located outside the Pantry. We are in need of groups to "adopt" each of the raised beds. Groups would be responsible for planning, planting, weeding, watering, and harvesting the vegetables.

The Pantry has a volunteer from the Green Team who has lots of ideas/helpful hints about the beds, but we need volunteers to execute them. Please let us know as soon as you can if you are interested in taking on this project. Planting time is near!

Local Support for the Pantry

The following stores and restaurants support the Bowie Food Pantry. Let's thank them by giving them our business:

- The Cakery
- B.J.'s Warehouse
- Chipotle
- Giant Food (Free State Mall and Collington Plaza)
- Mom's Organic Market
- Starbucks (Free State Mall and Bowie Town Center)
- Walmart
- Wegman's (Waugh Chapel)

Thank you for your continued support of the Bowie Food Pantry

Adult Education FORUMS

The Adult Education committee is hosting two forums that deal with important issues of our day. Please join us for informative presentations and a chance to ask questions of the presenters. For more

information regarding either of these forums, please contact Jim Woods.

Gun Violence Prevention

Vincent DeMarco, a renowned advocate for public health causes including reducing teen smoking, restraining gun violence, and expanding health care access will speak about preventing Gun Violence as it relates to public health on Sunday, April 7, 2013, at 11:30 AM in Dodds Hall.

HUMAN TRAFFICKING

On April 14, at 11:30 AM in Dodds Hall, following the 10:00 AM worship service and coffee, we will be conducting a forum on the topic of Human Trafficking which has been covered more and more by the press recently. This is a growing social problem that we know very little about. Melissa Snow will be our speaker. She is Director of the Anti-Human Trafficking Program at TurnAround, Inc., a domestic violence and sexual assault center in Baltimore that helps women, children and families who are victims of abuse. Among other accomplishments, she has worked to rescue and restore survivors of sex trafficking in India, Nepal, Fiji, South Africa, Kenya, Jamaica and the United States. Join us to learn more about this international problem.

CCPC Contact Information

Office Hours: Tuesday - Friday 9 AM to 3 PM (301) 262-6008 / ccpcbowie@verizon.net ccpc.bowiemd.org

Pastor James Brassard ccpcpastor@verizon.net

Pastoral Assistant, Margaret Hallau ccpcpa@verizon.net

Youth Coordinator, Rhia Miller ccpcyouth@verizon.net

Children's Coordinator, Rebecca Coleman ccpckids@gmail.com

Director of Music, Susan Ricci Rogel Ricci-rogel@msn.com

Assistant Director of Music, Kevin Clemence klclemence@earthlink.net

Administrative Assistant, Robin Seekford ccpcbowie@veirzon.net



HIGHLIGHTS OF SESSION

The Nominating Committee has been meeting on a regular basis and will be contacting members in their search for five new Elders and five new Deacons to fill the Class of 2016. In addition, one new Deacon is needed to fill a two year term for the class of 2015. Elder Susan Brutout is chairperson of the committee.

Ten councils make up the Session and so, there is a variety of talents and gifts needed to carry out the duties and responsibilities of the church when called to be an Elder. A Deacon serves the church in the area of compassion and service as set forth in scripture sharing the love of Jesus Christ for the poor, the hungry, the sick, the lost, the friendless, the oppressed and those who have burdens.

The Congregational meeting to elect new officers will be May 5th. after the 10 A.M. Worship Service.

The renovations in the men's bathroom on the Dodds Hall side is nearly completed.

Fire safety upgrades have been made in the CE Building as a result of the recent fire inspection.

The Session thanks Mary Keller for her many years of serving as Communion preparer. Sue Evans and Shirley Cook will be taking over the Communion Preparation responsibility.



Christian Community Presbyterian Church



3120 Belair Drive Bowie, MD 20715 Phone (301) 262-6008 Fax (301) 262-5177 Web: 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.

Bowie Interfaith Pantry

Open for distribution and service 9 AM-11 AM on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.

We are closed on holidays.

Located at: Christian Community Presbyterian Church

(in the Education Building at the rear of the parking lot)

3120 Belair Drive — Bowie MD 20715

Visit our website: www.bowiefoodpantry.org

E-mail us: <u>BowieFoodPantry@gmail.com</u> Phone: 301-262-6765

Thank you for your continued support!



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 <u>www.ImagineThePlace.com</u>, call 443-510-6308, or e-mail <u>Ann@ImagineThePlace.com</u>. Scholarships available.

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 <u>info@belaircoop.org</u>



www.belaircoop.org

