



August 15, 2012

I am excited about the Golden Weekend here at CCPC as we celebrate 50 years of ministry. We have a great worship service planned for September 9th at 10AM. Former pastors will be here along with many returning out of town members. I just read the wonderful history of CCPC that Doris Kobe and Mary Brock wrote and is on its way to the printer. It is an inspiring story that is well told.

The 1960's were exciting times and Bowie attracted many of the people that Robert McNamara called the "Best and the Brightest." But, the Bowie experience of Camelot was not free from the struggles for justice that was raging in America at the time. The hot button issues of the 60's were Open Housing (Levitt never sold a home to an African American), busing to desegregate schools, and the sexual revolution made possible by the pill.

During the 1960's, Seminary professor James Gustafson defined the church as "a community of moral discourse." The church was that place set apart to debate the big questions and to discuss the tough issues. My pastoral experience shows that many people do long for a church that will foster their ability to discuss, question, and grow in their faith. Unfortunately, many Christians get uncomfortable when the church openly discusses controversial issues because they fear that discussing tough issues will divide people. This is understandable given the nature of "debate" on cable television.

Today, we have several more hot button social issues to consider. Increasingly, the debates are played out in the courts or appear on the ballot as citizen referendum. I am not a fan of referendums. They don't produce open and intelligent discussions, but become heavily funded advertising campaigns that are backed by noble sounding groups whose identity and motive are often clouded in secrecy. For example: Who is funding the anti-gambling ads on TV? It is not citizens who know the harm gambling causes in families and the corruption it brings to politics. It is competing gambling interests.

CCPC will offer two forums in September to discuss referendums that will be on the November ballot. The most controversial is the "Marriage Equality" initiative. Eight states have passed laws that permit same gender couples to get married. The Presbyterian Church at the June General Assembly meeting in Pittsburgh narrowly defeated a motion to amend the Book of Order to change the definition of marriage from "a man and a woman" to "two people." Along the way, the Assembly declined to issue an authoritative interpretation of church law that would have allowed ministers at their own discretion to perform same gender marriages in states where those marriages are legal.

Soon after these votes, the Assembly, in a desire to "promote the peace, unity, and purity of the church" overwhelmingly voted to have Presbyterian churches engage in a series of discernment and study concerning the meaning of Christian marriage. We will begin this theological discussion at a forum here on September 23rd at 11:15AM.

On the following week, September 30th we will hold a forum on the "Dream Act." It will be an event filled month.

Grace and peace,

James Brassard

Worship Notes



August 19th Worship: Jesus finishes his “Bread Sermon” in John 6 by claiming that he is the living bread that came down from heaven, the bread that leads to eternal life. Whenever Christians talk about eternal life their thoughts turn to heaven and the promises made in our memorial services. We will examine the meaning of eternal life and its connection to heaven.

August 26th Worship: The Sacrament of Baptism for Kevin and Karin Rice’s son, Robert Marcus, and James and Carrie Rice’s daughter, Emily Grace, will be celebrated. The sermon titled, “Not Done Alone” will focus on the revival of community.



Memorial Service

Bill Hallau died peacefully on Monday, August 13th.

To honor and celebrate Bill’s life there will be a memorial service in the Sanctuary on Saturday, August 25th at 11 AM. A luncheon will be held in Dodds Hall following the service.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made in Bill’s memory to:

National Kidney Foundation
30 East 33rd Street
New York, New York 10016

Donations may be made electronically by kidney.org and selecting National Kidney Foundation.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Margaret and the Hallau family

Births

Penelope Hallau Miller was born to Heather Hallau Miller and Tim Miller on July 17, 2012.

Congratulations to the Hallau and Miller families!

May this bundle of joy bring you comfort and happiness.

DEACON'S CORNER

This is the nineteenth in a series of articles about living well by considering the host of things we can change in our lives, our homes, and our surroundings that can make our lives healthier, happier, and safer.

Special thanks to Joy Bible, former Moderator of the Board of Deacons, for sharing her wisdom and expertise through the Deacon's Corner. We will be preparing a complete set of Deacon's Corner articles to share with CCPC.

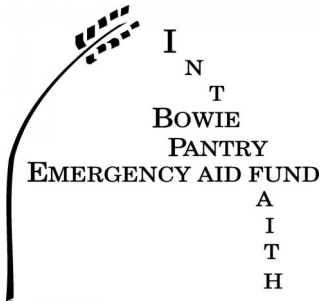
Do you suffer from a condition known as paper piles? Do you have trouble finding important papers when you need them? We have talked about clutter in all areas of our houses, but one of the most difficult and endless areas of clutter, is paper. Whether the papers are important bills, letters, or junk mail the piles never seem to go away. How can we make things easy for our families in times of crisis or severe illness, or death if they cannot find the important papers when they need them?

Organizing and setting up a file system to house all your important information is one of the best gifts you can give yourself and your family. I have known many families who have spent months, even years, trying to sort through a loved one's personal papers trying to find out what needs to be done or who to contact. The best thing about setting up a good filing system is once done it is easier to put papers away and keep the piles from growing!

Many people say, "I know exactly which pile my insurance papers are in." Great for you, but does someone else in the family know? There are so many ways to file your papers. Learn to prioritize your papers by urgency, importance, and accessibility. Let some family members know where they are. Make copies of your most important documents, including birth certificates, social security cards, passports, immigration papers, marriage licenses and divorce certificates, real estate documents, current insurance policies, and wills. Grown children are sometimes resistant to learning this information. The response is, "Mom, you're not going anywhere."

Keep a list of where your family can find the important papers. A "what you need to know about my belongings, business affairs, and debts" list, if you will. There are record books you can buy that are easy to follow and fill out. Relieve your family by recording your wishes, in as much detail as possible, in case of death. Update your information regularly. Keep your information in a secure, fireproof place and be sure to tell a family member or executor of your estate where it is. The time **is now**, and the time **is right** to take care of these matters. This is one of the most important areas of your life that needs, must, and should be organized. You'll have peace of mind, and your loved ones will surely feel appreciative. Go forth and FILE! It is NEVER TOO EARLY to start!





Bowie Food Pantry

Anyone wanting to contribute food to the pantry can either drop off directly at the Pantry or put on the brown table in the Atrium of the church. For monetary contributions, you can mail or drop off to the Pantry or ask for it to be put in the Pantry's mailbox in the church office.

Traveling or already traveled this summer? Don't know what to do with all those little bottles of shampoo, conditioner, lotion, etc.? The Pantry will gladly accept these items as well as any other personal care items you wish to donate. Please make sure the items are unopened.

Friendly Reminders

- ◆ Christmas Families School Supplies (wide ruled notebook paper and #2 pencils) can be dropped off at the church office.
- ◆ CCPC's Annual Crab Feast is coming up fast! The event is on August 26th. Tickets are still available! Get yours now by contacting Barbara Engh.
- ◆ CCPC Ladies Getaway reservation deadline is September 5th. For questions, call Peggy Oates at 301-262-6959.
- ◆ Memorial Garden Brick Ceremony will be after the second church service on Sunday, September 16th.
- ◆ Golden Anniversary Weekend is Friday, September 7th through Sunday, September 9th.
- ◆ Golden Anniversary Contact Information—please send any contacts for former members or friends of CCPC to Laurel Cox.
- ◆ The CCPC Theater Troupe will be giving a show titled, *Heaven's Got Talent!* On Saturday, October 27th in Dodds Hall. Interested? Contact Linda Miller, Susan Ricci Rogel, or Melodie Dziduch.



Session Highlights

**Do note time changes for Worship Services
beginning September 16th**

The Sunday Morning Task Force Committee members were invited guests at the June 11th Session meeting by Rev. Brassard and the Worship Council Chairperson Sharon Youngdahl to answer questions about the carefully studied proposal for the Sunday Morning Schedule beginning September 16th. Anita Pesses presented the findings of the Congregational Questionnaire which were helpful in the planning process.

Session approved the following schedule.

8:30 AM - 9:15 AM : A Chapel Service, (quiet and reflective) in the Sanctuary to include sermon, traditional hymns, a possible weekly communion, piano accompaniment, possible solos or special music, but would not include choirs. This service would allow any members who like to worship early or who need to worship early due to other scheduled activities to do so.

9:15 AM to 10 AM: Fellowship and choir warm ups

10 AM -11 AM: Full worship to include all choirs and styles of music, children's message, baptisms, communion, other special programs, all other regular worship components, sermons, prayers, etc. This service would allow most of CCPC's worshipers to enjoy all elements of the service and all special celebrations and sacraments offered as well as allowing CCPC to come together and worship as one congregation. It will also allow children and youth to participate in their secular activities scheduled on Sundays.

11 AM: Fellowship

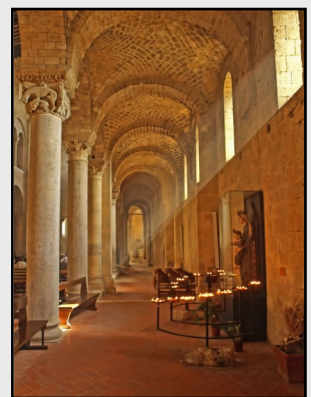
11:15 AM: Adult education, special forums, new member classes, special brunches, and group gatherings. This component will allow for many opportunities for education and fellowship that our current program does not.



CCPC Members Present Photographs at the Quiet Waters Park Photo Exhibit

The Digital Photography Club of Annapolis will show photographs at their exhibit "A Photographer's Eye" at Quiet Waters Park August 2nd through September 23th.

CCPC members Jim Bridger and Steve Webb entered pictures that were selected to show in the Quiet Waters exhibit. Jim's three photographs are shown below.



Steve's photo is titled *Showtime* and it displays a six year old boy playing on a little league football team. The boy's eyes are on his coach who has just told him he is going into the game.



There are many more great photographs at the exhibit and would be well worth a visit, so take some time to go check them out and support your CCPC family members.

For information and directions to the park, please go to their website at <http://www.aacounty.org/recparks/parks/quietwaters/> or call (410) 222-1777.

Contact Us

Office Hours

Tuesday through Friday 9:00 AM—3:00 PM
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If you no longer want *The Caller* delivered to your home and/or prefer to receive it online, please contact Robin at the church office.

The next Caller will be sent out around September 1st. Please have all articles in by 9 AM Tuesday, September 28th.

If you need assistance, please feel free to call the office. Thank you!

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.

Bowie Interfaith Pantry

We are 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: BowieFoodPantry@gmail.com Phone: 301-262-6765

Thank you for your continued support!
