

The Empty Jar

As we gear up and set our sights on welcoming a new pastor in the new year, let's remember to focus on the important things (see PNC update). We're going to need every bit of energy to prepare and implement a smooth transition for the new pastor and us.

"A professor stood before his philosophy class and had some items in front of him. When the class began, he wordlessly picked up a very large and empty jar and proceeded to fill it with golf balls. He then asked the students if the jar was full. They agreed that it was.

The professor then picked up a box of pebbles and poured them into the jar. He shook the jar lightly. The pebbles rolled into the open areas between the golf balls. He then asked the students again if the jar was full. They agreed it was.

The professor next picked up a box of sand and poured it into the jar. Of course, the sand filled up everything else. He asked once more if the jar was full. The students responded, Yes.

The professor then produced two cans of Coke from under the table and poured the entire contents into the jar effectively filling the empty space between the sand. The students laughed.

Now, said the professor as the laughter subsided, I want you to recognize that this jar represents your life. The golf balls are the important things — your family, your children, your health, your friends and your favorite passions — and if everything else was lost and only they remained, your life would still be full. The pebbles are the other things that matter like your job, your house and your car. The sand is everything else — the small stuff. If you put the sand into the jar first, he continued, there is no room for the pebbles or the golf balls. The same goes for life. If you spend all your time and energy on the small stuff you will never have room for the things that are important to you.

Pay attention to the things that are critical to your happiness. Spend time with your children. Spend time with your parents. Visit with grandparents and extended family. Create or carry out a special dinner for your spouse. There will always be time to clean the house, fix the disposal or deal with things from your job. Take care of the golf balls first — the things that really matter. Set your priorities. The rest is just sand.

One of the students raised her hand and inquired what the Coke represented. The professor smiled and said, *I'm glad you asked. The Coke just shows you that no matter how full your life may seem, there's always room to sit on the front porch and share a Coke with a friend."*

Let's give thanks that we as people and a church have made it through the time of COVID to a joyful reunion and the call of a new pastor. Let's give thanks for the big things in our lives and let's let go of the small things that seem so difficult right now so that we can move forward unencumbered to the future God is calling us into.

Peace and God's blessing to you,
Pastor Caroline

GRATEFUL
thankful
BLESSED

Pastor Nominating Committee

Congregational Report #6

The PNC reports that it has found someone! Like all of you, we members of the PNC are excited about the prospect of calling a new pastor and look forward to the day when we can announce the name and make a personal introduction. Until then, we intend to keep you informed of our progress; this is our sixth such report.

As you recall, our schedule of activities is broken down into seven distinct phases. We are now at the tail end of phase five (shown in bold below), and have already started on phase six. The seven phases are:

1. Getting organized (assign roles, becoming a Team)
2. Telling our story (detailing what CCPC and who we are looking for)
3. Fishing for candidate (posting our job announcement and awaiting applications)
4. Interviewing candidates (prioritizing and assessing candidates)
5. Selecting candidates of choice (down-selecting, making offer, **negotiate terms of call**)
6. Introduction of pastor to church (to Session, to congregation, sign the Call)
7. Helping new pastor get started

At this point, at the end of September, a job offer was made to an outstanding candidate, and the offer has been accepted. The proposed Terms of Call are being finalized, including the costs for relocation. We are working hard on a detailed event timeline to guide us from today to a Sunday in late November (probably Nov 27) when our candidate can deliver a sermon, followed by a Congregational Meeting to accept the candidate and the proposed Terms of Call. We of course have to safeguard the name of the candidate until all parties can agree on when to go public with that. But we can excitedly tell you this much: our chosen candidate is female, is credentialed with a Doctor of Ministry, and has a family. With an interstate move timed with the school and work calendars, we are looking at a start date in the mid-January timeframe.

Serving you, we remain your dedicated search committee: Gladys Tataw-Ayuketah; Brian Cable; Sara Huey; Skip Oates; Kevin Maxwell; Jane Mellow; Mark Pfarrer; Emelie Rubin. Our supportive Presbytery liaison is Rev. Dr. Jay Losher, of Colesville Presbyterian Church, Silver Spring, MD.



Thank You



The family of Janyce Watt extends a sincere thank you for the beautiful cards, conversations, assistance, advice, hugs and calming vibes during a difficult time of illness and subsequent death. It really is amazing how the church has come together for us. Becky Pfarrer

Dear CCPC Friends,

Thank you so much for all of your support on my father's passing. I have no words to express how touched I was to see so many people show up at his memorial service. All of the cards, emails, phone calls, and the beautiful handmade shawl were so thoughtful and kind. I thank you so very much. Sincerely with love and gratitude, Robin

Out of Office

Please note: Robin will be out on vacation the week of October 9.

Mission Drives

The details of all Mission Drives and the Warm Nights Wish List can also be found on the [CCPC website](#).

October Missions

CCPC will have two Mission Drives during the month of October. Our first is collecting things for Warm Nights from their wish list. The second is the Script Cards for Youth Ministry. These cards can be purchased from the Warm Nights wish list, Salvation Army Christmas Angels gift cards, and/or personal gift cards for family members.

Script cards are only available during the month of October in the Atrium.

The Warm Nights gift cards are: Walmart, Target, Amazon, Giant, Safeway and Shoppers. If you choose to donate in this way, you can order the cards in the atrium.

The Salvation Army Christmas Angels that are not adopted receive gift cards. CCPC has signed up for these in addition to the clothes' and toys' Angels. The Christmas Angels gift cards are: Target, Walmart, and Amazon. You can choose this form of donation by ordering gift cards in the atrium.

In years past, we have sold Script cards for members to give as Christmas Gifts. We will be doing that during the month of October, so cards will be back before Thanksgiving.

November Mission

In November, you can shop for Christmas Angels to adopt through the Salvation Army Christmas Angel Tree Program. This year you can shop for just clothes, just toys, or choose to shop for both. If you prefer, you can order gift cards for the Salvation Army to use for Christmas Angels who do not get adopted. **You can choose to do contactless, direct shipping again, or bring your gifts to the church on November 20th or November 27th to be delivered to the Salvation Army. REMEMBER:** All gifts must be at the Salvation Army Warehouse by December 3. From November 7 through December 20, you can sign up on their website to volunteer at the warehouse in Hyattsville helping to sort all the gifts.

December Mission

In December, come shop at the Alternative Christmas Market and support local and international missions.

Watch for more details about these upcoming Mission Committee opportunities for the fall!

ALSO . . .

CCPC has been helping a family that found themselves homeless earlier this year. Our members provided support until they were able to find a house to rent. Now they need some furniture. If you have any of the listed items provided here and would like to get rid of them, please contact Kris Ross at 630-391-0060. Three little plastic dressers for the children, night lights for 3 children, a tall shelf for the laundry room, a cabinet for extra kitchen storage, dining room table and chairs. They are using milk crates for the bed frames for the children's 3 mattresses.



Automated External Defibrillator

Do you know what an AED is?
(Automated External Defibrillator)

An AED is used to help those experiencing sudden cardiac arrest. This usually occurs when a disruption in the heart's electrical activity causes a dangerously fast heartbeat or a fast and irregular heartbeat. An AED, along with CPR, could help save a life while waiting for professional emergency care.

Does CCPC have one? No ... (not yet)
Would you like to learn how to use an AED?
Would you be interested in learning CPR ?

Please contact Patti Cable at thecables@verizon.net to indicate your interest or support or to obtain additional information.

Adult Education

Adult Education classes are on Sundays after worship. Join us in person at the church or online via this link:
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83808300041> Meeting ID: 838 0830 0041 Or dial 1-301-715-8592



OCTOBER: Christian Faith and Identity

10/9/22: NO ADULT ED - Private Memorial Service
10/16/22: Kris Ross Supporting LBGQTQIA+ Christians Part 1
10/23/22: NO ADULT ED - Trunk or Treat 1-3pm
10/30/22: NO ADULT ED - Brick Ceremony at Noon

NOVEMBER: Three Pillars of PCUSA's Matthew 25

11/6/22: LBGQTQIA+ Christians Part 2
11/13/22: Part I: Congregational Vitality
11/20/22: Part II: Deconstructing Structural Racism
11/27/22: No Adult Ed – THANKGIVING

DECEMBER: Pillars Continued

12/4/22: NO ADULT ED - Alternative Christmas Market
12/11/22: Part III: Addressing Systemic Poverty
12/18/22: NO ADULT ED - Children/Youth Pageant & Xmas Party
12/25/22: NO ADULT ED - MERRY CHRISTMAS!

JANUARY 2023: TBD

1/1/23: NO ADULT ED - HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Do you have questions about our Adult Education classes or would like to lead one? Contact Karin Rice

Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion

Join us tomorrow morning Saturday, October 8 with the wonderful Shani McIlwain. We will explore those "Awkward Silences" that arise when we encounter racism in our daily lives, and consider ways to use our privileges to take risks for good.

We will be using Shani's workbook, Awkward Silences. We have a few extra or you can order one at www.shanimcilwain.com. We begin at 9:30am with coffee and a light breakfast. Lunch is included. The workshop is free, but donations are appreciated Interested? Contact Ann Fleming.

Friends giving

We're Thankful for Friends!

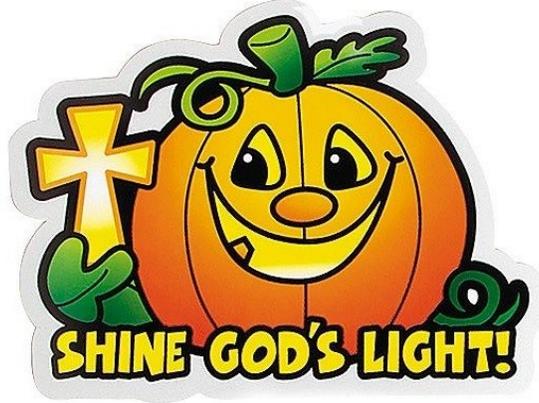
Children & Youth come together for a Friendsgiving feast.

Kids only! Bring a dish to share for all to enjoy.

Saturday, November 19, 2022

4pm to 6pm in Dodds Hall

RSVP By November 11, 2022



Optional Activity



We are looking to bring optional activity back! A time for kids to hang out and play and a time for parents to listen to the service. In order to make this a success we need the help of volunteers each week. Kids will leave the service with the volunteer after the Children's Message and come back after the sermon. If you'd like to get your name on the sign up sheet and pick a date or two please contact Kim Gedrich ccpcyouth@verizon.net. You must be able to pass a background check and sign the Child Protection Policy.

Trunk or Treat

Get Ready for a Super Spooky Halloween!

Sunday, October 23 from
1pm to 3pm

**GAMES! CRAFTS!
FUN!**

Trunk or Treating from
2:30pm to 3pm

Dodds Hall and the CCPC Parking Lot



Children's Handbell Choir!

The Children's Handbell Choir has resumed rehearsals on Sunday mornings immediately following the 10:00 a.m. worship service. These rehearsals take place in the choir room. Each child has their own private pair of gloves. Ringers are encouraged (but not required) to wear masks. Children age 5-12 are welcome to join us! If you have a child who is interested, please contact Rick Osborne or just show up on Sunday!



Praise and Sing-A-Long



Join music director Rick Osborn and the CCPC worship band with Samuel Guillermo for an evening of singing traditional classics and some new contemporary favorites, too! Bring your hearts and voices as we lift our praises in gratitude to God.

Enjoy refreshments and fellowship during the short intermission. This event is for all-ages. Friends and family are welcome. This event is being held in Dodd's Hall. November 12, @ 7pm. See you then!

Puppet Ministry!

Friends, Romans and Countrymen, Lend Me Your Voices!

Our puppet ministry is expanding! Three new friends of Isa and Jerome have arrived and we are looking forward to sharing their adventures in the coming months.

And....you can help us introduce them!

Isa and Jerome's new friends will require different voices. We need three volunteers to lend their voices to our new puppets. There is no age restriction—children and youth are encouraged to participate!

Our volunteers will not need to learn to use a puppet or attend rehearsals. We will send you a script to practice reading your lines expressively. When you are prepared, we will ask you to come into church for a brief audio recording session to capture your voice and lines. Memorization of lines is NOT required. Our puppeteers, Rick and Georgie, will do the rest!



If interested, please speak with Rick.

Concert Series

November 6, 2022: *Malcolm X Drummers and Dancers*

Virtuoso drumming and dancing combine in a thrilling celebration of African American culture and history.

December 4: *Bruce Jonas, pianist*

Mr. Jonas will present jazz arrangements of works from various musical genres, unique interpretations of seasonal favorites and original compositions.

**A free will offering will be received at our live performance.
You also may contribute on line at: ccpcbowie@verizon.net**

For more information: 301-262-6008, ccpcmusic@verizon.net

And, here's a look at our 2023 Concert Series . . .

March 5: *March on Washington*

Actress Gwendolyn Briley-Strand with historical photographs and song to bring to life this significant period in civil rights history. A question and answer session will follow.

April 2: *Diz & Izzy Aster, Vaudeville's Late Bloomers*

Clowns Sabrina Mandell and Mark Jaster have a comedic presentation guaranteed to charm and delight audiences of all ages.

October 1: *Rick Osborne, organist*

Mr. Osborne will present compositions from the Romantic period including works by Brahms, Elgar, Franck, Mahler and Mendelssohn.

November 5: *CCPC Handbell Choirs*

The adult and children's handbell choirs of CCPC will combine forces to present a large variety of sacred and secular works including pieces for multiple handbell choirs.

December 3: *A Celtic Christmas*

The members of Celtic Bay and Rick Osborne will present seasonal music from the British Isles on the Great Highland pipes, small Scottish pipes, harp, guitar, harpsichord and Irish whistle.

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.

