



Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church (USA)

Making space for faith

From the Pastor's Pen

This last week, talking with Delores Barr about the adult Sunday School class, I found myself volunteering to teach about Advent poetry and hymns in December. I'm a former English teacher: from me you're going to get poetry occasionally. And I've been singing hymns since before I could follow a tune, much to the embarrassment of my musician parents. You've probably figured out that I pay a lot of attention to the hymns we sing in worship, and one of the joys of serving this congregation is that you haven't squawked (too much) when I've introduced new hymns.

I think singing in church is really, really important. And I think singing new music is also important.

There's an old saying that when we sing, we pray twice. Singing involves our whole bodies—not just our minds but our lungs, our circulating blood, our clappin' hands and tappin' toes. Singing requires breath—*ruach* in the Old Testament and *pneuma* in the New Testament—which are also words for wind and spirit. So we can say that singing unites us with the Spirit—when we sing we breathe the Spirit into our bodies, the Spirit enlivens us.

Singing teaches us theology and helps us remember it. When we've been singing "Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me" every Sunday for years, we **know** that God shines goodness on us, that the Son's grace pardons us, that the Spirit's love sets us free. And all anyone has to say to us is "holy, holy, holy," and we are reminded that the Lord is God Almighty. Music is powerful.

We also need to sing new songs, songs with different ways of understanding the Gospel. We understand as Presbyterians that we are "Reformed and always Reforming," and our music reflects those changes. Some of us mourn "golden oldie" hymns that are no longer in the hymnal, but there are a whole bunch of hymns that are gone for good reason.

A hymn writer in the late 19th century, Horatius Bonar, had at least two hymns in Presbyterian hymnals. One, "Here, O My Lord, I See Thee Face to Face" has been in every one of our hymnals since 1895. But another one, "A Few More Years Shall Roll," disappeared after 1911. Why? Well, its lyrics talk about the short time remaining until our deaths—not a popular theme these days—and the words are dated: "A few more years shall roll, / a few more seasons come, / and we shall be with those that rest / asleep within the tomb. ... A few more suns shall set / o'er these dark hills of time, / and we shall be where suns are not, / a far serener clime." A bit gloomy, isn't it!



FROM THE PASTOR'S PEN

Of course, every hymn we think of as a golden oldie was new at one time. There's a story of a parishioner's response to a new hymn in the 1890s: "The words are fine, but the tune is unsingable." The hymn? "What a Friend We Have in Jesus."

Sometimes, hymns we think have been around forever are actually relative newbies. It wasn't until 1990 that a Presbyterian hymnal included "Lift High the Cross" (1916), "How Great Thou Art" (Eng. trans. 1953), and "Here I Am, Lord (I, the Lord of Sea and Sky)" (1981).

I invite you to join the adult Sunday School class in December (9:30 a.m., just off the sanctuary) to look at new and different ways to experience Advent and Christmas through the songs we sing.

WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION—NOVEMBER ACTIVITIES

November 2018 Activities Dates:

Thursday, November 8 10:00 AM:

Circle Bible Study - Lesson 3: God with Us in Our Discouragement

All women of the church, please join us for our new Bible Study. Even if you cannot attend every lesson, we would love to have you join us for fellowship, learning, and growing in our faith together.

(Thursday, November 22 Thanksgiving)

4th Thursday Program November 29 – 10:00:

A speaker from Harford Family House will discuss the pillows in July and have previously donated. Come and learn how else we may want to help.



mission of this organization. We donated Christmas presents to this Aberdeen program.



DEACONS

Give thanks to the Lord because he is good. Psalm 106:1

The Open House for Found in Faith Ministries went well. We received a lovely thank you for our participation and for providing refreshments. If you wish to learn more about this mission, you can pick up a brochure or visit the facility. Thank you to all who helped, donated and stopped by. Good Shepherd was well represented.

SAVE THE DATE: The Giving Boxes

Saturday, November 17, 2018 - 9:00 am – noon Food Boxes Packing Day

Christ Our King Presbyterian Church, 10 Lexington Road, Bel Air, MD

The giving boxes include a frozen turkey and non-perishable food items. These items are in addition to the fresh food bounty that Good Shepherd provides for a full Thanksgiving feast. If you wish to help pack boxes please see Chris Bohns or Dorothy Burns. We typically serve 20 -22 families through our food pantry. Looking for some new volunteers to help with this task.

EXTREME FAMILY OUTREACH Holiday of Hope Star Kids Programs: Norma Webster contacted Debbie and we have requested 25 Star Kids. The names will be available early November. You may pick a name from the Star Tree and purchase a gift in the amount of \$25. The gift is to be placed in a gift bag. Please do not wrap! The gifts will be delivered to Extreme Family Outreach no later than November 25th, as their Christmas party is November. Names and instructions will be on the back of your star. Make your star shine bright in the heart of a child.

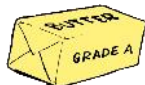
THANK YOU to Susan Luu for the handmade cards she has been providing for our card ministry. We appreciate your time and talent. If you know of someone in need of a card, please let Jane Workman or a deacon know.

FOOD PANTRY SUNDAY As always, the 1st Sunday of the month we collect items for the food pantry. See Wayne and Joan Douglas, or Dorothy to determine

Thanksgiving Turkey Dinner Program

Again this year Good Shepherd will be giving turkeys to our Food Closet Friends. We receive the turkeys and food boxes from the Giving Boxes Program at Christ Our King. We will be adding to the menu by giving fresh food items; milk, butter, bread, fruit, pies, salad, and potatoes. Please sign up in the narthex to donate as many of these items as you can. All food items should be brought in on November 18 due to lack of storage.

We will need help on Saturday, November 17 at 9:00 am at Christ Our King to pack the boxes. Then on November 9 we will need help in our parking lot to distribute 22 turkeys and food items 1:00-4:00 pm.





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Sunday, 4	Adult Sunday School 9:30 Worship 11:00—All Saints Sunday Coffee 12:00 Food Closet Sunday
Tuesday, 6	VOTE
Wednesday, 7	Deacons 6:30 Choir 7:30
Thursday, 8	Women’s Bible Study 10:00 Session 7:00
Sunday, 11	Adult Sunday School 9:30 Worship 11:00 Coffee 12:00
Wednesday, 14	Shepherd’s Kids 5:30-7:00 Choir 7:30
Saturday, 17	Thanksgiving Boxes Packed—Christ Our King 9:00
Sunday, 18	Adult Sunday School 9:30 Worship 11:00 Love Feast Coffee 12:00 Thanksgiving Food Basket Day
Monday, 19	Thanksgiving Turkey Pickup Day 3:00 Community Thanksgiving Service 7:00 Good Shepherd Host
Wednesday, 21	Choir 7:30
Thursday, 22	Happy Thanksgiving Office, Day Care Closed
Friday, 23	Office, Day Care Closed
Sunday, 25	Adult Sunday School 9:30



GSPC WOMEN’S CIRCLE BIBLE STUDY



Thursday, November 8, 2018
10:00 – 12:00
Upper Room

GOD’S PROMISE: I AM WITH YOU

BIBLE STUDY-LESSON 2 – GOD WITH US in Our Discouragement

SCRIPTURE: *Deuteronomy 31:1-8; Joshua 1:1-9; Haggai 1:1-15, 2:1-9*

KEY IDEA: **God’s promise of presence gives us courage, strength, boldness, and hope, when on our own we would lose heart.**

WHAT ABOUT HER? Jane Workman HOSPITALITY: Jo and Sarah



SHEPHERD'S KIDS



Thanks once again to all those who helped with Shepherd's Kids in October. We had two outstanding nights with our children. They truly know that Jesus loves them when they are in the care of the folks at Good Shepherd. Special thanks to Cindy PreVatte and Sue Thompson for preparing the lessons.

We will only meet one time next month on November 14. Our second night would be the evening before Thanksgiving and too many of our volunteers will be away or preparing food for their families. We wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving!



Shepherd's Kids

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November 14, 2018

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Happy & Happy

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Norma & Bill Webster
November 5, 1966

Gail & Allen Wronowski
November 15, 1992



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

11 Chuck Lawson

12 Steve Rapley

13 May Andrews

18 Bud Baranowski

18 Brad McKemy2

2 Eposi Elonge

29 Kady Howe

We would like the church family to know your important day! If we do not have yours in our file, please notify Ellie Pfoutz,

Prayer List

Philip Pugh, The Family of Wayne Weich, Diana Ciccotelli, Rodger & Vyona Bultena, Ed Matthai, Suzy Phillips, Dr. Whiteford, Haley H, William Webster, Cortney & Michael, Diane Petty, Jim & Hazel Morgan, Tim Villa's Mom, Alan Watson Jr, Lynda Bates, Steve Rapley, George Zepp, Paige, Dan Schultz, Marion Link, Irma Drucker, Charles Simon, Peggy & Bob Sklar, Dixon Gourley, Trish Breschi, Madison & Jessica Cook, The Kady Howe Family, Fred Mullis



SCHEDULES

Ushers:	Tellers:	Lay Readers:	Children's Time:
Nov. 4 Petnic, Workman	Bohns, Kent	Maas, C.	PreVatte, C
Nov. 11 Tich, McKemy, Morgan	Starke, Webster	Thompson, S.	Wronowski, G.
Nov. 18 Douglas, Webster, Starke	Pfoutz, Wagener	Barr, D.	Gay, J.

Session Highlights—October 2018

The next Session meeting is Thursday, Nov 8 at 7PM. You are welcome to join us, just let the Pastor know you wish to attend. The session-related committees are drafting their 2019 budgets. These will be rolled up along with the stewardship pledges to develop the annual church budget. Elders sitting on session and their assignments are as follows:

- Children's Center—Vickie Maas
- Facilities—Mike Bohns, liaison (C. Maas is Chair)
- Nominating—Hazel Morgan
- Personnel—Valerie Davis
- Worship—Gail Wronowski
- Communication/Publicity—Cindy PreVatte
- Finance/Stewardship—Gary Workman
- OutreachChurch Growth—Soung Hee Baranowski
- Shepherd's Kids—Farrell Maddox
- Commissioner to Presbytery—Cindy PreVatte