



# Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church (USA)

## PASTOR'S PEN

Dear Friends,

Try to imagine what it was like for those first disciples after Jesus had been put to death. Maybe in a moment of trying to get life back to "normal", Peter decided it was time to go fishing.

It was his trade, and he was good at it.

This event is recorded in John 21: 1-15. All night, few fish were caught. Peter must have thought:

"It figures, our luck has been running bad.

It was dawn when we saw a stranger on the shore about a hundred yards from us. Unsuccessful fisherman know the hated question: "Hey boys! Having any luck?"

"Nothing," we replied glumly.

He yelled, " drop your net over on the other side of the boat. you'll find fish there."

There's nothing like having a stranger on the shore giving you advice after you've been fishing all night. But we did what he said.

And then it happened. We started feeling the net move. Not just a few fish, but a heavy, wriggling, squirming school! Most of us were thinking about the fish. But one thought only of that stranger on the shore. "It's the Lord!" Peter said. He immediately threw on his shirt and swam to shore while the rest of us hauled in the net. It's a wonder it didn't tear with all that weight!

When the rest of us came ashore, the stranger already had some bread laid out, with a charcoal fire glowing and some fish cooking. He invited us to add a few of our own fish to the meal, so Peter went out to pull a few from the net.

"Let's have breakfast," the stranger said.

We all had this sense of who he was, so nobody asked any questions. He broke the bread and gave it, and then the fish, to us. It seems strange to do something so normal...eat breakfast...under such extraordinary circumstances. But that was what we did."

McLaren, B.D. *We Make The Road By Walking*. New York, NY: Jericho Books

That stranger is Jesus and he is often breaking bread with his disciples and with crowds of people. In recent days I have enjoyed breaking bread with members of our church, for lunch and for dinner. I also enjoyed lunch with a family while we watched the Ravens play.

Surely one of the highlights of my week is when we break bread after worship. That meal is filled with more than nutritional value. The time together helps strengthen our fellowship as we share stories with one another, and catch up on events in our lives.

If you have not been a part of this gathering each Sunday after worship, consider attending. And if you participate often, try sitting next to church members, or visitors, you barely know. Conversation over a delicious meal is a treat.

Soon we will share the Thanksgiving meal with those we love. I pray this holiday will be a holy day for you, and your family and friends. May it be a time where love is shared. And may it be a day to give thanks to God for all of the ways we are blessed. "Taste and see that the Lord is good." - Psalm 34: 8 Then pass the Turkey, gravy, and sweet potatoes. Leave room for pie, and for the Spirit at your table.

Blessings upon you, upon those you love, and upon those no one loves.

Pastor Keith

## UPPER ROOM AGREEMENT:

In recent weeks, God has blessed Good Shepherd with new attendees both in adults and young people. We give thanks for this gift and look forward to growing together in the love of Christ. As we grow we realize that there are adjustments to be made and we need to revisit how we do things so that we are welcoming to the new people joining our family in Christ.

**Matthew 19:** Jesus said, "**Let the little children come to me**, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."

We are particularly blessed each week as we join together in the Upper Room to share a meal and fellowship. How wonderful it is to set up additional tables and to hear discussion about making sure we have enough food.

**Matthew 14:** Taking the five loaves and the two fish and looking up to heaven, he gave thanks and broke the loaves. Then he gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the people. <sup>20</sup>They all ate and were satisfied, and the disciples picked up twelve basketfuls of broken pieces that were left over.

In an effort to follow Jesus' call to us, we will all, both young and mature, follow these guidelines.

1. For safety reasons, the kitchen is off limits to anyone other than preparers and cleanup teams. If you need to wash your hands, please use the restrooms on the first floor. If you need something from the kitchen, ask one of the team who prepared the food.
2. We will all be seated each week and share a blessing before food is served.
3. When you go through the line the first time, please take a reasonable amount and once everyone has been served the table will be open for everyone to enjoy seconds.
4. Because people are having conversations and the acoustics are not the greatest in the room, no one should play the piano during this time together.
5. Our young people may play with toys and books that are on the stage. Things that are in closets belong to our Children's Center and should not be used. Before leaving, all toys should be returned to the proper places.
6. If you drop or spill something, clean it up. If you need help, just ask. Accidents do happen, we just want to make sure we do the best job possible as we clean up.
7. To be safe, no one should be running in the upper room.

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### **ADULT CLASS on SIMON PETER**

**We meet each Sunday at 9:30 in the Upper Room.** Our study focuses upon the disciple Peter. He was a leader in the young church, and had strengths and weaknesses, as he followed Jesus.

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### **COMMUNITY WORSHIP**

Monday, November 25th at 7:00 pm at Joppatowne Christian Church at 725 Trimble Road  
Join us as we gather to give thanks to God. Members of other churches will join us for this time. Mark your calendar!



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### **REQUESTS FOR OUR PRAYER WARRIORS**



Delores Barr's niece, Suzette Hedrick, Norma's Sister Orangie, Marcie Jackson's friend Ramon, Kathy's Neighbor Debbie Ford, Susan Luu's daughter Brianna, Ethan's Mother Ginny, Joan Pugh's friend Kathy Mahoney, and Cindy PreVatte & Family.

If you or someone you know has a need that you would like to submit a prayer request for, please reach out to our prayer team at: [gsprayers@juno.com](mailto:gsprayers@juno.com)

## DEACON'S CORNER

Planning is underway for this year's Thanksgiving in a box. Good Shepherd will once again assist in the creation of 22 boxes of food for local families. A sign up sheet is posted for contributions to the Giving Boxes. **Anyone interested may volunteer to pack boxes at Christ Our King Church on November 23.** All items need to be brought in to Good Shepherd by the 24th. Please do not bring in perishable items before the 24th. **Finished boxes will be distributed November 25.** Please see Sue Thompson if you have questions



**November 24 will be our annual Love Feast.** Mark your calendars to join us for a meal and fellowship after church. Teams will coordinate to avoid too many duplicate items. Congregation members NOT on a coffee hour team who plan to attend are asked to bring a donation of any type of coffee. Your donation is greatly appreciated.

Good Shepherd will once again partner with Extreme Family Outreach for our Christmas giving program. Be on the lookout for the giving tree in the narthex.

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## WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

### GSPC WOMEN'S CIRCLE BIBLE STUDY

Thursday, November 14, 2019

<<<<<<10:00 am – 12:00 pm >>>>>>

Upper Room

#### LOVED CARVED IN STONE

A fresh Look at the Ten Commandments

**LESSON THREE** Words of Love: Keep Sabbath

**SCRIPTURE:** Exodus 20:8-11; Deuteronomy 5:12-15; Mark 2:23-28

**LESSON PURPOSE:** to understand the gift of Sabbath and to recover the sacred urgency of Sabbath-keeping for human life and the created order.

**LIFE WOUND:** Busyness that substitutes for holiness, and achievement that substitutes for identity.

**PAUSE & REFLECT:** How was Sabbath observed or not, when you were young?

Please read the study prior to our next meeting.

Bring a lunch.

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### Good Shepherd Women's Retreat - October 26, 2019

#### "Holy Friendships"

Thanks to all who attended our retreat!

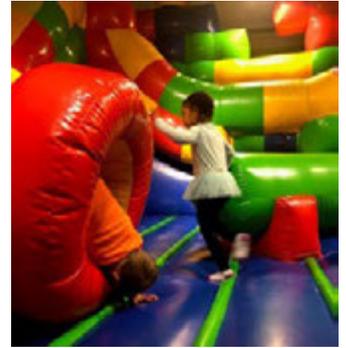
Our speaker, Jenn DiFrancesco, gave an energetic presentation on friendships – Biblical, historical, renown, and personal. We learned each friendship must include the characteristics of Persistency, Consistency, and Vulnerability.

We shared a special day together of fellowship, food, and fun. Old friendships were deepened and new ones created.

Proverbs 18:24 "A man of many companions may come to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother."

## GOOD SHEPHERD'S CHILDREN'S CENTER

On October 31, the Children's Center had a blast on our very first field trip! We rode on a big school bus and went to Harford Bounce Party Place. Enjoy these pictures from the day!



### MEN'S WORK GROUP RECAP:

On Saturday 26 Oct the Men's Working Group met and completed the following tasks:

Painted the Children's Center Director's Office, Painted the staircase to the upper room, Assembled new toy boxes, Established a trash collection area (out of sight, out of mind), Cleaned out the upper room store room, Removed metal trash, Spread playground mulch, Mounted cork strips in the class room, Mowed the lawn, Removed the dead tree near the parking lot and cut it into fire wood.

Kudo's to the following hard working, dedicated volunteers: Bud Baranowski, Bob Barr, Mike Bohns, Dave Carey, Barry Davis, Wayne Douglas, Pastor Keith, Clay Maas, Mike McKemy, Jim Petnic, Ryan & Weston Shuttlesworth, Bill Starke, and Gary Workman...

### SHEPHERD'S KID'S

We had two wonderful nights in October with our Shepherd's Kids. We welcomed several new children and continue to give thanks for this opportunity to teach them about the love of Jesus. Our volunteers work hard to keep the children on task and support the learning, and for that we also give thanks. We can never give enough thanks for Jeanette, Jim, Carl, and Norma as they have our meals ready and serve the children with such care and kindness.

**We will meet again on November 13th and 20th.**



### NOVEMBER & DECEMBER SCHEDULES

	<b>Ushers:</b>	<b>Tellers:</b>	<b>Lay Readers:</b>	<b>Children's Time:</b>
Nov. 3	Petnic, Workman	Bohns, Kent	Vickie Maas	Keith Roberts
Nov. 10	Tich, McKemy, Morgan	Pfoutz, Workman	Clay Maas	Gail Wronowski
Nov. 17	Douglas, Webster, Starke, Shuttlesworth	Starke, Wagener	Sue Thompson	Allen Wronowski
Nov. 24	Maas, Wronowski	PreVatte, Workman	Edie Burns	Bill Starke
Dec. 1	Petnic, Workman	Bohns, Kent	Delores Barr	Chris Bohns
Dec. 8	Tich, McKemy, Morgan	Pfoutz, Workman	Cindy PreVatte	Cindy PreVatte

# N O V E M B E R 2 0 1 9

**Friday, 1** Children's Center — Little Caesar's  
Pizza Sale Begins!

**Saturday, 2** First Presbyterian Church (Bel Air)-  
Discipleship Event 8:30am-1:30pm  
Choir 7:30

**Sunday, 3** Adult Sunday School 9:30  
Worship 11:00  
Coffee 12:00  
1st Sunday Food Pantry  
School's Out-Children's Center Open

**Monday, 4** Children's Center-Open House 10:00-12:00  
**Wednesday, 6** Choir 7:30

**Sunday, 10** Adult Sunday School 9:30  
Worship 11:00  
Coffee 12:00  
Apple Pie Festival, FPC, Bel Air 11:30-4:00  
School's Out-Children's Center Open

**Monday, 11** Shepherd's Kid's 5:30  
**Wednesday, 13** Choir 7:30

**Thursday, 14** Session Meeting 7:00  
**Sunday, 17** Adult Sunday School 9:30  
Worship 11:00  
Coffee 12:00

**Wednesday, 20** **November YARN Deadline :**  
Shepherd's Kid's 5:30  
Choir 7:30

**Saturday, 23** Thanksgiving Food Box Packing Day-  
Christ Our King 9:00-12:00

**Sunday, 24** Adult Sunday School 9:30  
Worship 11:00  
Annual Love Feast! 12:00

**Monday, 25** Thanksgiving Food Box Distribution Day  
Community Thanksgiving Worship 7:00

**Wednesday, 27** Children's Center Closes @ 4:00  
Choir 7:30

**Thursday, 28**  
&  
**Friday, 29** **Office and Children's Center-  
Closed for the Thanksgiving Holiday**



### SPOTTED AROUND JOPPATOWNE!

After leaving for the day I was sent a picture depicting the scene of something I could only define as a treasure (which I now find is not all that uncommon): Keith was flexing his skills at the basketball net with a neighborhood teen. He seems to relish passing the time playing B-ball while guiding the young minds of our community to healthy outlets. Without a doubt, this proves that those who serve the Lord got game!

A big thank you to Janelle for sending the picture, making this November's "Spotted Around Joppatowne" possible to share!



Halloween day the entire church was taken over by princesses, transformers, superheroes, heroines, and skeletons, all excited for the dress-up party and trick or treating ahead.

Even our teachers were happy to flaunt their holiday spirit in themed dresses, tights, and even a ladybug named Mrs. Pat!

Here is a picture of the Unicorn Janelle, keeping the magic of our Children's Center shining. Along with the Mad Hatter Trista, ensuring visitors to our wonderland are greeted with a smile. Everyone of all ages had so much fun this season!

## NOVEMBER

We would like to recognize this months important dates in the lives of our members

### 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*

*Brad McKemy*

*22 Eposi Elonge*

*29 Kady Howe*

*30 Rita Garity*



The Deacons would like the church family to know your important day! If we do not have yours in our file, please notify Ellie Pfoutz, 410-679- 4813