



FIRST DAY !

Weekly News and Opportunities at
The First Presbyterian Church of Howard County
May 1, 2016

TODAY



DISCIPLESHIP HOUR TODAY: *Coffee Fellowship, hosted by Ruth Circle, in Lyle Buck Hall, following the 10:30 a.m. service.* Next week's Discipleship Hour, to celebrate Mother's Day stop by the gift table in the Upper Commons after each service and grab a goody before heading out to enjoy your day.

LITURGIST: Sara (10:30)

USHERS & GREETERS: Debbie, Angela (8:30); Craig (10:30); Laura, Jonathan (Tech Crew)

FLOWERS THIS WEEK are given to the Glory of God by Gloria in celebration of the birthdays of her grandchildren Rylynn and Gage; & by Brett and Janet in joyous celebration of 28 years of marriage on April 30.

The flower arranger is Jan.

THE REMEMBRANCE CANDLE this morning is to remember Milton, husband of Bette, who died on April 30, 2015. Last Sunday we lit remembrance candles for Betty, who died on April 24, 2014 and for Bob, husband of Paula, who died on April 25, 2015.

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP: All worship begins in the Sanctuary.

At 8:30 a.m.: After Welcoming One Another—Children ages 4-7 may go with Ms. Kathy Moore to *Godly Play*. Parents can pick up their children following worship in rooms 110 & 113.

At 10:30 a.m.: After the Children's Prayer and Lord's Prayer—Children ages 4-7 may go with Ms. Kathy Moore to *Godly Play*. Parents can pick up their children following worship in rooms 110 & 113.

Older children, grades 2-5, who normally attend *The Worship Bridge* will return to their seats to experience a full worship service with their family.

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER, also called Holy Communion, is included this morning during worship. Everyone who puts faith and trust in Jesus Christ is welcome to share communion. Gluten-free bread is available. Communion Sundays are the first Sunday of every month.

BY CUSTOM, GIFTS ARE RECEIVED to the Deacons Compassion Fund on Communion Sundays. This fund serves the needy of our community with essential living expenses like rent, utility bills, groceries or prescriptions. Place your gift in the yellow envelope found in the pew.

Spring Concert



SPRING CONCERT AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

TODAY Sunday, May 1, 2016 at 5:00 p.m. Reception to follow.

Our Chancel Choir will be joined by members of the choir of Geneva Presbyterian Church for a performance of Schubert's Mass in G and Randall Thompson's Frostiana. The concert will be accompanied by a small string orchestra and woodwind.

GUIDE TO PRAYER FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 1

Please pray for: Joan, Burta, Jean & Richard, Phil, Marie, Dorothy, Jerry, Mil, Bonnie, Gertrude, Jim, Paul, Bob, Robert & Vivian, Nancy, Sarah, Anna, Jack and Katie, Paula, Dean, Maria, Bunny, Bette, *Shirley & Betsy*, Shirley, Al & Beth

Hospitalized: *Murray*

Recovering from surgery: Jeff, Jonah, Marla

Friends and Family: *Nancy's friend, Kay*

PCUSA Mission Coworkers: Jeff and Christi Boyd in Congo; Amanda Craft and Omar Chan with the Presbyterian Border Region Outreach (PBRO) along the US-Mexico border; Jed and Jenny Koball in Peru.

Please contact the church office, 410-730-3545, or Parish Visitor Ruth Bell, 443-668-1804 with the prayers and concerns that you would like to share.



PEOPLE ON THE WAY

Athanasius (c. 295 – 373) served as the Bishop of Alexandria. He is best known for his wise counsel at a critical moment in the church's understanding of itself – its doctrinal life. Faced by the widespread belief that Jesus was neither fully human nor fully God but a special creature combining some qualities of each (a doctrine called Arianism), Athanasius managed to persuade the whole church that since redemption is through the Christ event, Jesus must be fully God (as actor) and fully human (as one of us). Thus the church declared that God become human in order for humans to become divine. One of the pastoral letters that he wrote to surrounding bishops gives a list for books that should be considered canonical scripture. He lists the twenty-seven New Testament books that are recognized today.

We also remember: The unrest in Baltimore, April 18 through May 3, 2015, triggered by the death of a young adult in police custody, Freddie Gray. During this time, we began our Virtual Circle of Prayer each evening night at 9:00 p.m.

THE ECUMENICAL PRAYER CYCLE focuses the prayers of Christians week by week, so that over the year all the countries of the world are prayed for. This week we pray for *Eritrea, Ethiopia*.

Pray for:

- *The faithful witness of Ethiopian and Eritrean Christians;*
- *The settling of border disputes by diplomatic means instead of violence;*
- *New sources of food and potable water that can be developed affordably.*

For more information about the Prayer Cycle, visit the website of the World Council of Churches: www.oikoumene.org

OUR MISSION PARTNERSHIP PRAYER CYCLE FOR 2016

We pray for the mission we share as part of the PCUSA.

Theology, Worship and Education Ministries of the PCUSA

The Rev. Dr. Chip Hardwick is the Director of this ministry area. This ministry area develops educational materials, worship resources, leader development programs and theological studies that support the church's faith and life.

STUDENT MINISTRY

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR STUDENT MINISTRY

Today Sunday, May 1, 2016

11:30 a.m. – Games and Lunch

Mid-High Fellowship & Senior High Fellowship

Sunday, May 8, 2016

High School Graduate Recognition in both worship services

Mother's Day

Sunday, May 15, 2016

11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Summer Trip Orientation & End of Year Cookout



HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES RECOGNITION in worship will be **NEXT Sunday, May 8, 2016**. Please send information *about* your graduate and pictures to the church office, execasst@firstpreshc.org, by tomorrow Monday, May 2nd.

ADULT EDUCATION & SPIRITUAL GROWTH

SUNDAY MORNING EDUCATION HOUR - 9:30-10:25 a.m. – through June 12

Bible in Depth – taught by Doyle - Clark Parlor

This is a lively conversational study of an Old Testament text: Job.

Help! I have a Teen!– Library

A class for parents of youth. Each week will feature a different topic with either guest speakers or member facilitated discussions.

MISSION AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

May 1—Cuba Revisited – Lyle Buck Hall

NEW CLASSES IN THE MONTH OF MAY – starting May 1 through June 12

(see Tidings May 2016 Issue 5 for more details) All are welcome.

CONVERSATIONS ON RACE BOOK DISCUSSION—Room 252

lead by Paula and Erin

Just Mercy by Bryan Stevenson, founder of the Equal Justice Initiative.

EARTH CARE BOOK DISCUSSION - Room 205 – through May 22

lead by members of the Earth Care Team

Inhabiting Eden: Christians, the Bible, and the Ecological Crisis

by Patricia K. Tull.

BARMEN, BELHAR AND BELLBOTTOMS (1967): Three Twentieth Century Confessions - Branch Hall

lead by Sue Lowcock Harris

NEW OFFICER TRAINING - Room 258 - May 1, 8, 15 & 22

lead by Morton Harris



GRAB AND GO COFFEE is available at the *Wake Up Station* on the second floor across from the Parlor. Get a cup of coffee and head to class! Please return the cups to the drop off bins. Enjoy!

WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY WITH PASTOR SUE

9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m., every week in the Parlor

This year's text: The Gospel of Matthew. Come join in the discussion.

VIRTUAL CIRCLE OF PRAYER

JOIN IN THE VIRTUAL CIRCLE OF PRAYER each evening night at 9:00 p.m. – which was the hour when the Baltimore city curfew went into effect in 2015. We’ve continued to invite each other to a moment of prayer each night, and have expanded our prayer to include migrants and refugees, and the poor and oppressed in every place. Everyone is welcome to join our Virtual Circle of Prayer. You can pick up a copy of the prayer at the Welcome Desk, in the Lower Commons, or on our website.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE

“MOVEABLE FEAST” MINISTRY needs home-baked or bakery-purchased desserts. Please bring your dessert donation every second Sunday of the month to the church kitchen before 12:30 p.m. Be sure to label them for “Moveable Feast.” Items MAY be individually wrapped and should contain no nut products. For more information about this ministry, contact Discipleship & Caring Ministries Elder Olu Oshinnaiye.

FAMILY SUPPORT FUND is the way we help people in our congregation. If you have been thinking of making a donation, now would be a good time. Thanks.

BOOKS FOR BACKPACKS, sponsored by the Senior Living Group, will be on Sunday, May 15, 2016 at 11:30 a.m. in Lyle Buck Hall. Clean out your old books, CDs & DVDs and bring them to church for the sale. A contribution of 50 cents or \$1.00 per book/CD/DVD is requested. The money will go to the Backpack Project. Look for bins in the Lower Commons or drop off your books in Lyle Buck Hall on Saturday, May 14 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and shop for some new summer reads while you are there! On Sunday, come enjoy popcorn and goodies while browsing!

VBS REGISTRATION IS OPEN

We are excited to offer online registration this year. Visit www.firstpreshc.org and click on the link to sign up. Children age 3 through rising 5th graders are invited to participate. Childcare will be provided for younger children whose parents/guardians are VBS volunteers. Registration is \$10 per child and can be mailed to or dropped off at the church office. Paper registration forms can be found at the Welcome Center. If you have any questions contact the church office. **“Splash In” July 25-29 with us from 9:00 a.m. to noon!**

JUST ONE CAN...PLUS! – May – “Spic & Span”

As part of the Deacon’s continuing campaign against hunger in Howard County, we are asking for specific supplements to our on-going initiative called Just One Can. Our featured category for May is donation of cleaning supplies-dish soap, laundry detergent, chlorox, general household cleaners. Please leave your regular contribution - plus cleaning items - in the wooden “Just One Can” bin in the Upper Commons across from the Welcome Center. Thank you on behalf of the Deacons and the food-stressed of Howard County.

GENERAL INFORMATION

TODAY IS WILLS EMPHASIS SUNDAY

As a church, we believe in planning for the future so we can meet people's needs in a few months, years, and even decades. Including a gift to First Presbyterian in your will (also known as a bequest) can help us do that. With a bequest, you can strengthen our faith community and make a difference for the future. To include First Presbyterian Church in your will, consider using the following language: "I give and bequeath the sum of \$ _____ (or the % of), to be used for the general programs of First Presbyterian Church of Howard County, in Columbia, Maryland." Further information on Planned Giving may be found at www.presbyterianfoundation.org. The YRSC is also arranging a Planned Giving workshop in the fall. If interested, please contact any YRSC member or the church office, indicating your interest.



PENTECOST GERANIUMS – Decorate the sanctuary with red geraniums on Pentecost *Sunday, May 15, 2016*. Order forms are available at the Welcome Desk. Plants are \$5.00 each. The deadline to order is *TODAY Sunday, May 1st*. Contact: the church office.

JOURNEY FROM JERUSALEM

This year instead of heading to Jerusalem during Lent we are leaving Jerusalem after the resurrection just as Jesus' disciples went out to share the Good News of the Gospel. Reporting slips are at the Welcome Desk to log your activity and see how far we can spread the Easter message from now until Pentecost. Remember 20 minutes of sustained activity equals 1 mile. 2,000 steps equals 1 mile. *So far: traveling on a northerly path we're in the Barents Sea, between the Svalbard Islands and Franz Joseph Land Islands; on a westerly path – we're in the Atlantic Ocean – just south of the Madeira Islands.*

MOTHERS DAY CARDS

The annual Mother's Day Project is a special mission that helps transform the lives of women and children through "Healthy Women/Healthy Families," a global poverty alleviation ministry co-sponsored by Presbyterian Women and Presbyterian World Mission. Your donation in any amount is gratefully accepted and you will have a Mother's Day Card to give to women who inspire and support you, like your Mom! See the display in the Lower Commons now through *Sunday, May 8*.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN will be having Brunch on *Saturday, May 14th* at 10:0 a.m. at Bob Evan's. If you have any questions, please call the church office.

THE NEW ALLELUIA BANNERS were created using Celtic Hand letters and filled in with Zentangle® and Celtic designs. Zentangle® is a registered trademark. The "Celtic Designs" were inspired by the coloring book from Studio Series by Peter Pauper Press. Other influences for designs came from our own artists: Syd, Julianna, Virginia, Evelyn, and Debbie. These include: Chinese Brush painting. A quick glance of a stained glass window in a program about historic places in England, and grape vine leaves. There is also a 3rd Alleluia on one of the letter "L" written in Hebrew, keeping with the tradition of repeating the praise to God in the Triune fashion. Thank you to our talented and creative artists who gave of their time to create these beautiful banners! ALLELUIA!

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Every Sunday

8:30 a.m. Worship

9:30 a.m. Church School – The Education Hour

Grab and Go Coffee

Infant & Toddler Care is available all morning

Godly Play (age 4 – grade 1) during 8:30 & 10:30 a.m. services

The Worship Bridge (grades 2 – 5) during 10:30 a.m. service

10:30 a.m. Worship

11:30 a.m. Discipleship Hour

Backpack Project Packing in Branch Hall

Sunday, May 1st

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

COMMUNION

MINUTE FOR MISSION – WILLS EMPHASIS SUNDAY

DEACONS COMPASSION FUND OFFERING

NAME TAG SUNDAY

9:30 a.m. Church School for all ages

11:30 a.m. Discipleship Hour: Coffee Fellowship

Liturgical Dance Rehearsal

Mid-High & Senior High Fellowship

5:00 p.m. Spring Concert

Tuesday, May 3rd

12:00 p.m. Staff Meeting

7:00 p.m. SMLT Meeting

Wednesday, May 4th

BULLETIN ARTICLES DUE

9:30 a.m. Wednesday Morning Bible Study

1:00 p.m. Knitting Fellowship

7:00 p.m. Hannah Circle

7:30 p.m. Handbell Choir

Thursday, May 5th

7:15 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Friday, May 6th

9:15 a.m. Deborah Circle

1:00 p.m. Bulletins Folded

Saturday, May 7th

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN PRIDE DAY – WEAR YOUR T-SHIRT

Sunday, May 8th

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

MOTHER'S DAY

MINUTE FOR MISSION – BOOKS FOR BACKPACKS

MOVEABLE FEAST

RECOGNITION OF HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES

9:30 a.m. Church School for all ages

Blood Pressure Screening

11:30 a.m. Discipleship Hour: Celebrate Mothers!

Blood Pressure Screening

Liturgical Dance Rehearsal

The Church Office is open Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

For more events throughout the week at First Presbyterian Church, please check the calendar on our website at www.firstpreshc.org, the current issue of Tidings, or call the church office 410-730-3545.

A Weekly Email is sent every Friday, if you would like to receive it please contact the church office.

To submit news or events for the weekly bulletin **First Day!** please email to: execasst@firstpreshc.org by Wednesday at 9:00 a.m.

To submit articles for Tidings, our monthly newsletter, please send articles by email to: churchoffice@firstpreshc.org by **Thursday, May 12, 2016** at 9:00 a.m. for the June 2016 Issue #6.