

June 15, 2013



The Caller

I am always impressed with our high school graduates. While we always celebrate their academic success, we don't say enough good things about their good works outside the classroom. For example, Lang Fonjoe (DeMatha High School) who will attend St. John's University, founded a charity to provide school supplies to students in Cameroon. Katie Sherrick (South River High School and Towson-bound) organized a very successful effort to provide business dress clothes for women seeking to move off public assistance into the workforce by partnering with "Suited for Change." Lang, Katie, Becca, Mik, and Ivy, we are very proud of you.

These youth do well because they come from families with a strong commitment to education. Next to the home environment, the most important factor in educational success is a young person's peer group. Our children usually live up to our expectations and the aspiration of their friends.

Most Americans like their local schools. Maryland is blessed with some of the nation's finest school districts. The under reported story is that our schools are doing a better job preparing our young people for the global competition for workers. Dropout rates are at an all time low and our poor and disabled students are learning more.

The news is not nearly as good in those areas where the majority of students come from families living in poverty with significant members of the student body under the supervision of the criminal justice system. Most schools can handle a few student with behavioral and discipline problems; it is near impossible when the majority of students don't read at grade level, have high truancy rates, and have a real struggle just to get to school. If the peer group is disengaged, the families are not involved, and the learning environment is not safe, then progress is rare.

While success feeds on itself, so does failure. For example, if strong students from families with high expectations find the local junior or senior high school not providing a good learning environment, their only choice is to compete for the few precious seats in magnet schools or pay the often steep tuition at private schools. Or, they move to other areas. This exodus feeds the vicious cycle of decline making it harder for the schools. Parental involvement declines. The best teachers and administrators opt for neighboring districts. The quality of the candidates for the school board declines.

Eventually, concerned civic and political leaders are almost forced to intervene. But not all state or county takeovers are successful. Schools are not like corporations. A turnaround corporate CEO can come in with the support of the board and hire a new management team, streamline the product line, sell unproductive divisions, leverage the company's strengths, and reach new customers. School districts can upgrade teaching staffs, hire strong principals, introduce new curriculum, and target special programs to aid struggling students. However, if your student pool is predominately from children who enter school behind and don't have the parental support to catch up, there is only so much you can do.

I want to thank our teachers and administrators for their dedication and love for our children. It has been our privilege at CCPC to assist these outstanding young people in their growth and development.

Grace and peace,

James Brassard



Worship Notes

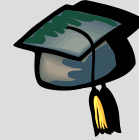
June 16: Service of Ordination and Installation. Sing the great Reformation hymns and hear a sermon on Luke 7:36-8:3, where Jesus is the guest at Simon the Pharisees home. We will honor the service of Jack and Mary Francis Jones.

June 23: The Rev. Hal Pease, who served CCPC for many years as an associate pastor, will preach.



To all our fathers out there:

*Happy
Father's Day!*



CCPC's Graduates

We want to congratulate the following graduates for a job well done!

High School Graduates

- ★ Mik Evankovich—Bowie High
- ★ Lang Fonjoe—DeMatha
- ★ Becca Jonas—The Learning Center
- ★ Katie Sherrick—South River
- ★ Ivy Todd—Bowie High

College Graduates

- ★ Laura Genson—Rutgers
- ★ Cheyenne Radden-Lesage—Graduate School University of Maryland

Graduates Degrees

- ★ Jonah Brassard—Justice Degree St. John's Law School
- ★ Allison Cooke—Masters in Public Health University of Alabama
- ★ Dr. Travis Conrad—Dr. of Audiology University of Maryland
- ★ Jessica (Jonas) Silliers—Masters University of Baltimore

We apologize for any names we might have missed. If you would like your graduate recognized in the next newsletter, please contact the church office.



DEACON'S CORNER

This is the 29th 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.

Recently, I have been focusing on common sense, wisdom, and knowledge. In studying eight decades of research on longevity, I discovered that conscientiousness is very relevant to a long life. Surprisingly the studies done in the 1940's and in subsequent decades all concluded the following: "Conscientiousness, which was the best predictor of longevity when measured in childhood, also turned out to be the best personality predictor of long life when measured in adulthood." Young adults who were thrifty, persistent, detail-oriented, and responsible lived the longest.

OK, time to get out my trusted thesaurus and look up **Conscientious**. It is an adjective and means: diligent, industrious, punctilious, painstaking, dedicated, careful, meticulous, thorough, attentive, hard-working, studious, particular, rigorous, and religious. Wow, I found this very interesting.

Why do people who are conscientious stay healthier and live longer? Well, the study lists three main reasons. First, conscientious people do more things to protect their health and engage in fewer activities that are risky. Meaning, they are less likely to smoke, drink to excess, abuse drugs or drive too fast and they are more likely to follow doctor's orders. It does not mean they do not take risks, but they tend to be sensible and evaluate the risk as to how far they can go. The second, and least obvious reason for the health benefits of conscientiousness is that some people are biologically predisposed to be both more conscientious and healthier. The third, and most intriguing, reason is that those with a conscientious personality lead people into healthier situations and relationships. Yep, conscientious people create healthy, long-life pathways for themselves. Contrary to some people's opinions, conscientious and dependable people are not boring and stale.

The good news is if you feel you fall short of the mark, you can change habits, environments, and work toward a healthier life-style. People can and do slowly change those patterns and their habits when they seek out situations that promote responsibility.

Although, it is not found in the study, Faith plays a huge role in how we conduct ourselves. If we are connected to a faith and are conscientious about that faith, we know we can rely on God's guidance and help. We will have the strength to pursue our dreams and reach our goals. "Whatever your task, put yourselves into it as done for the Lord and not for your masters." (Colossians 3:23)



Directory Changes and Additions

June 2013

Patty Adams - Corrected email: paadams8888@gmail.com

Patty Fox

2205 Lackawanna Street
Adelphi, Maryland 20784
301-438-1460

Sharon Metcalfe - Corrected e-mail: jmet_2000@yahoo.com

Hal Pease

23136 Silverberry Way
California, MD 20619
301-690-2666

Janyce Watt

10450 Lottsford Road Apt. 338
Mitchellville, MD 20721
301-925-7586

Dear CCPC Family and Friends,

Thank you for all of the cards, calls, visits, and
strawberry short cake I received for my birthday.

Thank you to Margaret for announcing my "big" day.

It's not too bad getting old! Next year (if I make it!), I want a party!!

Jane Sumner



Friendly Reminder!

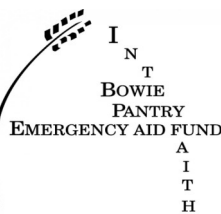
Children of Eden Play

June 28 and 29 at 7 PM and June 30 at 2 PM in Dodds Hall.

Tickets are \$10, \$8 for seniors and children.

Highlights of Session

- ◆ New Officers were guests at the June Session meeting. Rev. Brassard met with them on May 31st for Officer Training. July 1st is the starting day for new Elders and Deacons.
- ◆ The Time and Talent sheets are being collated and will be shared with new Council Chairpersons as they form 2013-2014 committees and events. Members and friends of CCPC can find the place to use your gifts and talents — join groups and get to know people with similar interests. The church is a special place to form friendships with those of similar beliefs and values, especially for families with children.
- ◆ The Session elected Cyd Radden-Le Sage as President of the CCPC Corporation, and Jim Woods as Secretary of the CCPC Corporation and as the Clerk of Session for 2013-2014.
- ◆ New Deacons will receive training/orientation at the July Deacons meeting.
- ◆ Offerings for Christmas Families in July 14, 2013. Watch for details!!



The Interfaith Bowie Food Pantry

June Special Need: Cooking Spray & Oil

When preparing meals and desserts, it is helpful to have cooking spray and oil (vegetable, olive, etc.). All donations are greatly appreciated.

July Special Need: Deodorant and Body Lotion

Each week our families request personal care items. Our supplies of deodorant and body lotion are low – all sizes and types are accepted and appreciated.

Greatest Needs:

Applesauce – jars or 6-pack snack size
Canned fruit – peaches, pears, fruit cocktail
Tuna Fish
Boxed Instant Potatoes
Fresh fruit
Fresh vegetables
Rice

Classical **Voice and Guitar Recital**



Please join mezzo soprano LENEIDA CRAWFORD and guitarist TROY KING in a free concert of art songs and arias on Sunday, June 23 at 7 PM in the Sanctuary. Many of the works that Crawford and King are presenting are typically reserved for piano and voice, but are exquisitely suited for the intimate collaboration of guitar and voice. Composers such as Bellini, Puccini, Schubert, Brahms and Fauré are represented on this special public concert. The two artists will be preparing to make a recording in July of this year. Their brief bios are listed below:



Guitarist Troy King regularly performs solo and chamber music concerts throughout the United States, Europe, and Latin America. He has been heard on the BBC and frequently on National Public Radio in both the United States and Spain, and has given festival performances at the Interlochen Arts Festival, Charlton Kings International Guitar Festival (UK), the Portland Guitar Festival, Bethlehem Guitar Festival, and Summer Guitar Workshop. Frequent tours have taken King to major concert venues all around the world.

Leneida Crawford, mezzo soprano, was acclaimed as "an exceptional new performer" by Andrew Porter in *The New Yorker* and the *San Francisco Chronicle* described Crawford as "a fine-grained mezzo-soprano of remarkable agility with violalike colors." The *Washington Post* agreed. Dr. Crawford has appeared as a soloist at numerous venues such as the Meyerhoff Symphony Hall with the Baltimore Choral Arts Society, Kennedy Center with The Paul Hill Chorale, and Washington Oratorio Society. In addition, she has performed with many nationally recognized symphonies and orchestras as well as recorded on the Albany and VOX labels, and has appeared on CBS and PBS.

Special Sunday Offering – **Christmas Families in July**

Have you started preparing your Christmas list yet?

Believe it or not, the Christmas Families team has started preparing for Christmas Families 2013. Were you one of the Christmas Family grocery shoppers in years past? We have found a new way for you to participate in providing groceries. Session has approved a special offering titled **Christmas Families in July**. Special envelopes will be available on **Sunday, July 14, 2013** for this purpose. All monies donated will be used to purchase groceries for our families this year. Special envelopes will be available on Sunday morning July 14. This is the Sunday before the start of Vacation Bible School – when our attentions will already be focused on children. Please come to church that day prepared to contribute toward this worthwhile program.

Note: It will be helpful for accounting purposes if you know your offering envelope number. We are also working on other creative ways to make participation in Christmas Families more fun and meaningful. Stay tuned for more information as we get closer to December. Questions: Contact Roxanne Johnson at roglojo@gmail.com or 240-731-0683.

Merry Christmas!

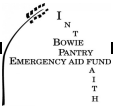
Christian Community Presbyterian Church



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Bowie, MD 20715
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Web: 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.*



Bowie Interfaith Pantry

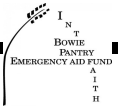
Open for distribution and service 9 AM-11 AM on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.
We are closed on holidays.

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!



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 Ann@ImagineThePlace.com. Scholarships available.



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

