

the gateway

Christ our Center
CHILDREN OUR BLESSING
Justice our Passion

January 2012

It is January. And we are exhausted. When the company has gone home and the cookies have all been eaten, it's time to clean up and move on. Gifts have to be returned, and the tree taken down. The Christmas dishes have to be packed away as well as baby Jesus and the camels from the crèche. The hangover of bills must be faced as well as the extra pounds from all those cookies.



We all know that Christmas has not always been the mega-event that it is today. Once we strip away the consumerism and cultural layers that have little to do with the birth of Christ, we may still be surprised that Christmas is not among the first holy days.

In her book, *The Christian Year*, Robin Knowles Wallace lays out the origins of holy days. In the earliest days of the church, Sunday, *every* Sunday, was **the** holy day. It was and is the Lord's Day, a day God rules and the resurrection reigns. She quotes church historian Mark Searle, "Sunday is theologically and experientially a time of life after death: we have confronted Christ's death through our baptism and survived it to become people of the resurrection."

It was three hundred years before three holy days can be identified: Pascha, Pentecost and Epiphany. Pascha is an ancient word for a holiday that celebrated Jesus' death and resurrection all in one. Only later did the church come to celebrate Lent, all the days of Holy

week, and Easter.

Pentecost, which celebrates the gift of the Holy Spirit and the birth of the church, lasted for fifty days after Pascha. Now we have reduced Pentecost to all but one day, and many churches fail to recognize it all together.

The third holy day of the early church was Epiphany. Epiphany comes from the Greek *epiphaneia* meaning "appearance" or "revelation." Christ's birth, the visit of the wise men and Christ's baptism all celebrate God's presence being revealed in Jesus. Over the next 100 years the celebration was broken up into three separate holidays: Christmas, Epiphany and the Baptism of the Lord. Later the church added the twelve days of Christmas, the Feast of the Holy Name on January 1 and the whole season of Advent.

"Sunday is theologically and experientially the time of life after death..."

I don't know what holy days will be like in a hundred years. For now, I am glad to have survived Christmas and in many ways, January does have a feeling of life after ...well... Christmas. And still in January we have this amazing time of revelation, appearing and the manifestation of God in human form. In the risen life of January, let us bow with the wise men, go down into and rise up from the waters of baptism, and celebrate life after death every Sunday.

~God's Blessings, Molly

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The deadline for the **February Gateway** is **Monday, January 9**. Submissions should be emailed to megan@chevychasepc.org.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

January 1 **1st Sunday of Christmas**
One service at 10:00 a.m.

Minister Jane Duffield will be preaching

MUSIC:

10:00—Family Choir

January 8 **Epiphany**
One services at 10:00 a.m.

The Rev. Molly Blythe Teichert will be preaching

Sacrament of Communion will be celebrated

MUSIC:

10:00—Chancel Choir

January 15 **Baptism of the Lord**
Services at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m.

The Rev. Molly Blythe Teichert will be preaching

Hunger Offering

MUSIC:

9:30—First Service Singers

11:00—Chancel Choir

January 22 **3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time**
Services at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m.

The Rev. Molly Blythe Teichert will be preaching

MUSIC:

9:30—First Service Singers

11:00—Chancel Choir

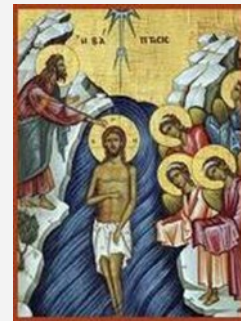
January 29 **4th Sunday in Ordinary Time**
Services at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m.

The Rev. Molly Blythe Teichert will be preaching

MUSIC:

9:30—Carol and Junior Choirs

11:00—Chancel Choir



Interested in Bible Study in the New Year?

The Wednesday Morning Bible Study Group will visit the exhibit on the King James Bible at the Folger Library on Wednesday, January 11, 2012, and will then do a two-week series (January 25 and February 8) on "How the Bible Came to Be." The group enjoys invigorating discussion and invites you to join them!

They generally meet on the second and fourth Wednesday morning of the month from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 noon in Geneva Hall.

For more information or to sign up, contact Grace Hyslop (202-966-2997), Dale Kasab (301-229-4868), or teacher Lynn Jostes.

Come join us!

Chevy Chase Concert Series

The Washington Saxophone Quartet
Sunday, January 22—4 p.m.

Come in out of the cold and warm to the mellow sounds of the saxophone - four of them - in an amazing display of versatility by this virtuoso group. From arrangements of Bach, to original compositions for four saxophones, to jazz and to the sounds of big band favorites, this quartet will amaze, delight and inspire. Join us to be transported from the cold, the everyday or other cares by this lively, extraordinary quartet.

Andrew York, Classical Guitar
Sunday, February 19—4 p.m.

A Grammy award-winning guitarist and composer, York's musicianship is influenced by a wide range of styles, from jazz to folk to classical and beyond. He has recorded extensively and his compositions are regularly performed and recorded by such luminaries as John Williams and Christopher Parkening.

FOCUS in March 2012

March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, 2012

FOCUS (our Adult Education series at CCPC highlighting various aspects of the adult journey: **Faith... Outreach... Community... Understanding... Spirituality...**) will continue on Thursday evenings in Lent. **FOCUS** courses (from 7:30 – 9:00 p.m.) are open to the members and friends of Chevy Chase Presbyterian Church and the larger community.

Dinner and fellowship for everyone are available from 6:30 – 7:15 in Chadsey Hall (\$7.00/adult; \$3.00/children 3-10; children under 2 eat free; RESERVATIONS REQUIRED by Tuesday at noon.) Come enjoy a meal with your church family even if you can't stay for a class! You don't have to cook, and you can't beat the price!! Childcare is also available during the classes as requested.

The next series of classes will be held on the five Thursdays of March (**March 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29, 2012.**) Watch for a brochure with all of the details and registration information coming in February!

Chancel Choir CDs Available for Purchase

Professional recordings of the culminating concert of the 40th Anniversary of the Concert Series are still available! The CD includes the Duruflé Requiem and Poulenc's Concerto for Organ, Strings and Timpani. The CDs are \$15 each.

Please contact the office to get yours today!

Open Flow Yoga Continues

The ancient practice of yoga *asanas* (poses) are to help us to be physically, emotionally and spiritually present to God. In Open Flow at CCPC, participants will have an opportunity to turn off the world and just be – reflecting quietly and individually on some of the more profound truths of our faith. An Open Flow class is for beginners and experienced practitioners alike and includes centering, *pranayama* (breathwork), flowing sequences of *asanas* that can get a heart pumping and muscles and tendons stretching, seated poses to cool down, and *savasana*, a pose of deep relaxation and rest. All of the practice is done in a calm atmosphere with soft, relaxing music. Participants should wear clothing that they can bend and stretch in comfortably; a yoga mat, a large towel, a notebook and a writing instrument to class. A free will offering to CCPC will be taken at each class and is open to friends and neighbors.

Meg Artley is a long-time CCPC member and has practiced Vinyasa Yoga for five years. This year she took a leap of faith and completed the 100 level teacher training intensive at Tranquil Space in Arlington, where she has practiced for two years. She has found that the practice of yoga has deepened her faith by allowing her the quiet time to be with God and physically feel the awesome power of God's imagination and energy that is within each of us.



Classes will begin January 12 and run until February 16 every Thursday in Room 350B at 7:30 p.m.

Church School Classes for Everyone! We've Saved a Place for You!!

Church School classes for all ages resume on January 15 and will continue through May each Sunday. January's schedule is a little different in that on January 8, 2nd graders and up will worship and celebrate communion with our church family at 10:00 a.m. Church School classes will be held for 1st graders and younger on that day. Church school classes for all ages resume when we return to 2 services on the 15th. Church school is held from 9:45 – 10:45. Children and youth are encouraged to attend worship

with their family or with friends and then go to their classes (usually after the Time with Children each week). If you haven't already done so, we ask that parents please complete a registration form for their child(ren) for the rest of this year's session. Forms are available from the teachers or in the church office. Check out the Adult Education classes outlined in this month's *Gateway* and plan to join one in the New Year. We'll be looking for you!!

Adult Education and Nurture at CCPC Sunday Mornings and Beyond

Continuing January 15, 22, & 29 2012

The Bible in Context Class (Meets from 9:45–10:45 a.m. in Room 350-B, third floor, Education Building)

The Gospel of Mark. Participants are invited to study the Gospel of Mark with teachers Dottie Boerner, Beth Nyhus and John Weicher. Read Mark 5:1-20 and join us on January 15, 2012. Anyone who is interested is always welcome.

Faith Trek (Meets from 10:00–11:00 a.m. in the Library, first floor, center building, alley side)

Faith Trek is a small group of CCPC adults who are curious about their faith and the world and who want to explore in the company of a circle of friends. The circle expands easily, and we would be delighted to have you join us. The class is reading *The Misunderstood Jew: The Scandal in the Church of the Jewish Jesus* by Amy-Jill Levine. Check with Margaret Chan (301/656-5034) if you have questions or to secure a copy of the book. Please feel free to drop by any Sunday.

Open Forum (Meets from 9:45–10:45 a.m. in Geneva Hall, second floor, Education Building, street side)

The Open Forum offers a forum for the discussion of a variety of topics on the intersection of faith and life. Join us in January for a discussion of these topics:

January 15 – Classes resume at 9:45 with "Eastern Turkey Adventures" led by the Rev. Robert C. Angus. Eastern Turkey is not an ordinary tourist area, yet it is rich in historical and archeological sites which give us a glimpse of Turkey's very ancient history. The Cappadocian area, in particular, was home for active first-century Christian communities who lived in houses and worshipped secretly in churches carved from the volcanic ash. Join us for a discussion about this interesting and unfamiliar land that played an important role in the development of the early Church.



January 22- *Marks the beginning of our Justice in Action series that will provide an update on current social problems and how organizations CCPC supports are helping those who experience the devastation of poverty, homelessness, unemployment and hunger.*

Our first speaker will be Michael O'Neil, community engagement coordinator, Community Council for the Homeless at Friendship Place (CCHF) and a member of CCHF's consumer's council. They will discuss the problem of homelessness in the District and how the organization in practical ways empowers homeless men and women to rebuild their lives.

January 29- Our *Justice in Action* series continues with Marie Henderson, Executive Director of Interfaith Works who will talk about the growing problem of poverty and homelessness in Montgomery County and will share personal stories of how the organization has changed the lives those impacted by these problems.

Wednesday Evenings (Monthly)

The Young Women's Bible Study invites all young women of the congregation to join their study and fellowship! Mark your calendars for the **third Wednesday of the month at 8:00 p.m. in Room 350-B** (third floor, Education Building, street side.) Bring your Bibles and join us and teacher, Lynn Jostes, for some great discussion of the Gospel of John!

Next Inquirers' Seminar Scheduled for February 12, 2012

The next Inquirers' Seminar of the program year will be offered on **Sunday, February 12, 2012 from 12:15 to 4:00 p.m. in Room 250** (Geneva Hall) at CCPC. This session is open not only to those persons who may have decided to become members, but also to persons who exploring their call to Christian discipleship as members of this congregation. The format for the afternoon following lunch includes a brief overview of the basic history, beliefs, and traditions of the Presbyterian Church (USA) as well as an outline of specific opportunities for using your gifts with others in ministry at CCPC. Those choosing to join will do so on February 26. If you are interested in participating in the seminar on February 12 (or know someone who may be interested), please contact Associate Pastor Lynn Jostes at 202-363-2202 or lynn@chevyCHASEpc.org for more information or to sign up. Come join with the disciples of The Chevy Chase Presbyterian Church as we discover our gifts and answer our calling, and together serve our Lord.

The Confirmation Journey Begins

On **January 22, 2012** interested 9th grade youth (and older) and their parents are invited to attend an orientation pot luck supper from 6:00 – 8:30 p.m. in Geneva Hall to hear plans and expectations for this year's Confirmation Class experience. Confirmation is more than just "joining the church," but is about exploring a life of faith and becoming an active disciple of Jesus Christ. Participants will learn about what we believe and how we live faithfully as members of the church. Letters of invitation have been sent to these youth and their families. If you have not received a letter, and are interested in participating or need more information, please contact Lynn Jostes (202-363-2202 x 22).



We ask your prayers as our young people begin this significant part of their faith journey. We look forward to celebrating with them as they make their public profession of faith on Pentecost Sunday, June 3, 2012.



Already know you're ready to go?!

Secure your spot today with the early registration fee of \$250!*

The cost for registration goes up after January 15th and space is limited so get your check in today!

Please feel free to contact Becky Wood for more information at becky@chevyCHASEpc.org or by phone at (202) 363-2202 x29

*\$250 covers the registration cost for the conference. Food, transportation and housing are not included and will be determined in Spring 2012 depending on the number of youth attending.

Montreat Youth Conference

(Week 3: July 8-14, 2012)

Montreat is for those youth who are graduated 8th graders (entering 9th grade in fall 2012) through graduated 12th graders (graduating high school in 2012). All youth within these grades are welcomed and encouraged to attend!

"We will come together as a community of faith in this sacred place. Free of distraction, we will focus on the God who accepts us just as we are. While we have fun with friends, we will celebrate God through meaningful, creative and interactive worship. Youth will be inspired and challenged to affirm and deepen their sense of

Christian identity."

-MYC Planning Team

Chevy Chase Presbyterian Church



Hearthstones & Firesides

CCPC Youth Group Ski Trip 2012

February 10-12, 2012

Canaan Valley, WV

General Information:

We'll leave CCPC on Friday, February 10th at 5:30pm to drive out to West Virginia—stopping for dinner along the way. Saturday we will spend the day at Canaan Valley Resort skiing, snowboarding, tubing, etc. Saturday night we'll head over to the lodge near our cabins to use the pool, game room, and other amenities. On Sunday, we'll pack up to make it back to CCPC by the early afternoon. All transportation, housing, meals, and ski costs will be covered.

Lodging:

We will stay in cabins at Blackwater Falls State Park. We'll have a cabin for boys and a cabin for girls, and will hang out here when we're not at the resort. Bedding, towels, etc. are provided.

Meals:

We'll stop for dinner on our way out to West Virginia on Friday. We'll do breakfast both Saturday and Sunday mornings in our cabins. Saturday lunch will be at the resort and we'll cook dinner on Saturday. We will also stop for lunch on our way back on Sunday.

Cost:

The cost of the trip will be between \$167 and \$236 depending on your child's age, lesson and rental needs and whether your child will only ski or ski and snow tube. ***A deposit of \$50 is required by December 31st to reserve your spot.***

Scholarships are available. Please contact Becky Wood for more information.

Contact Becky Wood for more information or to register (becky@chevyCHASEPC.org or 202-363-220 x29)

Space is limited! Reserve your space today!

Special Justice Sunday Event

By William Minor

The Mission Committee is pleased to announce that the Rev. David Beckmann, President of Bread for the World, will preach and lead us in worship on Justice Sunday, February 5, 2012. Please join us on this very special Sunday, when we will explore what it means to be a church that has embraced "Justice our Passion" as one of our core beliefs.

Bread for the World serves as a collective Christian voice that urges our nation's policymakers to end hunger at home and abroad. Through its own staff, its more than 70,000 members, and its member churches like CCPC, Bread advocates for policies, programs, and conditions that address hunger and poverty. Bread recognizes that by making our voices heard in Congress, we can make our nation's laws more fair and compassionate to people in need.

Rev. Beckmann, a Lutheran pastor and economist,

has been president of Bread for the World since 1991. He is one of the foremost U.S. advocates for hungry people, leading large-scale and successful campaigns to strengthen U.S. political commitment to overcome hunger and poverty in the country and globally.

Beckmann was named the 2010 World Food Prize laureate, the Nobel Prize equivalent for food and agriculture, in recognition of his achievements in building one of the world's foremost grassroots organizations leading the charge to end hunger.

CCPC is proud to have a long history of connections with and support for Bread. Longtime member Barbara Howell opened Bread's Washington office in 1975 and led the organization's advocacy before Congress for more than three decades. Jim McDonald, husband to our former pastor Dean McDonald, was later the Managing Director of the organization. Many others in the congregation have volunteered

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A Stole for our Friends in Shikoko

By Rev. Molly Blythe Teichert

In July of 2011 Sue Martin designed a stole to celebrate 23 years of partnership between the Chevy Chase Presbyterian Church and the Church Community in Shikoko Kenya. The stole was created to be a gift for Keffer Shikuku the pastor in charge of the Faith Based Group and the chair of the Community Development Council.

The stole is green for the liturgical color of “ordinary time.” The wording “Friends in Christ” describes the nature of the relationship between CCPC and Shikoko. We are partners and friends, seeking a relationship of mutual respect and collaboration. Our partnership enriches our spiritual lives and aims to better the living conditions of the people of Shikoko.

On the ends of the stole, Sue embroidered the churches of the two partners. On one side is a picture of the CCPC church building. Sue artfully depicted the stone work and center stained glass window. On the other of the stole is a circle of churches representing the different churches in the Faith Based Group in Shikoko.



On Sunday, July 24th 2011, a delegation of five from CCPC, including the Rev. Molly Blythe Teichert, Dr. Jim Shelhammer, Gretchen and Cameron Donaldson, and their friend Laura Godfrey, were welcomed in worship at the Friends Church in Shikoko. On behalf of the people of CCPC, Pastor Molly presented the stole to Pastor Keffer. The stole serves as a constant symbol of our friendship and unity in Jesus Christ. Through the love of God, in Jesus Christ, God has broken down barriers of distance, culture, nationality, ethnicity, economic situation and made us partners in a common ministry of love and support.

On behalf of the Shikoko Ministry Group and the people of Shikoko, Kenya, I wish to thank Sue Martin for her generous gift and her wonderful talent. Sue helped us to both celebrate and deepen our friendship with the people of Shikoko. Many, many thanks and God's blessings, always.

Mission Sunday from page 6

and supported Bread over the years, and we currently contribute to the organization from our Mission budget.

Under Rev. Beckmann's leadership, and through the hard work of Barbara, Jim, and many others, Bread for the World has garnered an impressive record of achievements. Due in part to persistent, bipartisan advocacy by Bread, the U.S. government has tripled funding for effective programs to help developing countries in Africa, Asia, and Latin America. Bread has also helped double funding for U.S. nutrition programs, assisting millions of families in the United States who struggle to feed their children.

Prior to joining Bread, Rev. Beckmann worked at the World Bank for 15 years, overseeing large develop-

ment projects and driving innovations to make the bank more effective in reducing poverty. He earned degrees from Yale University, Christ Seminary, and the London School of Economics. His most recent book, *Exodus from Hunger: We Are Called to Change the Politics of Hunger*, was published in 2010 to glowing reviews.

Our Justice Sunday services on February 5 provide our congregation with a special opportunity to hear from an internationally-recognized leader on the most critical justice issues in our world: hunger and poverty. It will also be a chance for our congregation to come together to explore how we as individuals and as a church can be advocates for justice here in the nation's capital and around the world. Please join us for what promises to be a memorable Sunday.

*The National Capital Presbytery
invites you to join in worship
Celebrating the ordination of*

Jane Duffield

as

*Minister of the Word and Sacrament
in the sanctuary of
The Chevy Chase Presbyterian Church*

*Sunday, January 15, 2012
4:00 pm*

Reception following in Chadsey Hall

Chevy Chase Presbyterian Church

"Christ our Center. Children our Blessing. Justice our Passion."

gateway

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