

It is a delight to begin the new year with you, particularly as we approach one year of my serving alongside you as your pastor! Thank you for all the ways we have lived out God's calling in our midst this year. We now enter the season of Epiphany in which we spend time pondering the way God shows up and is revealed to humankind. Our worship theme "When God Comes Calling" will invite us to ponder the stories of Biblical characters and what they do when they become aware that God is inviting them into something—a journey, a revelation, a realization of God's presence. The series highlights the joys and challenges of rising up to follow God's call, no matter what that looks like in our lives.

During worship on January 7, based on the Magi story from Matthew 2, we'll talk about dreaming alongside God, and being attentive to the way God guides us. We'll each draw a "star word." Like the Magi followed a star to meet the Christ child, star words are a small guiding word practice. You will receive a word written on a star and be invited to contemplate and prayerfully consider that particular word—unique to you—throughout the coming year.

On Jan 14, we invite our friend and neighbor, Rabbi Steve Weisman, of Temple Solel to join us in the pulpit, as we give thanks to God for his longtime partnership in ministry, and the people he leads. Thematically, we are reminded that being attentive to God involves listening to our neighbors and recognizing the way God is in our midst and our friendship.

Later in the season of Epiphany we'll look at the stories of Samuel, Jonah, the fisherman brothers Jesus approaches as they are attending to their boats, and conclude the series on February 11<sup>th</sup> with a storytelling account of one of those brothers, James, about his time with Jesus and experience of the Transfiguration.

May this season be a blessing to you as you are invited to ponder how you are noticing the revelation of God in your life, and growth for all of us as we pay attention to the fullness of Christ's presence in our midst.

~ Pastor Kori

### *Weather Events*

In the case of inclement weather, please plan to worship virtually if you are at all concerned about ice or snow. Should in person worship be cancelled, a decision will be made by 6:30am that morning. Please check our Facebook page. Every effort will be made to contact members, if there is a cancellation.

### *Taking Down the Greens*

We will be Taking Down the Greens after worship service this Sunday, January 7.  
Volunteers are needed. Food and beverages will be provided.

### *Christmas Post Office*

Please pickup your Christmas cards in the atrium today, as our "post office" is closing.

### *Children & Youth Chili and Pasta Dinner*

Join us Saturday, January 13 at 4pm in Dodds Hall for some yummy chili and pasta. You can also join us earlier that day at 1pm to help make sandwiches for Warm Nights.

### *Liturgists Needed*

Signup to be a liturgist at the welcome table in the atrium.

### *Welcome, National Ballet Institute*

CCPC is delighted to welcome the National Ballet Institute as our new building users in our CE building.  
Please see director Pamela Moore's announcement below

#### **National Ballet Institute for the Arts Moves to Bowie, Maryland**

The National Ballet Institute for the Arts is holding an Open House on January 21, 1PM-4PM.  
Join us to learn about the NBIA offerings to the community.

The National Ballet Institute for the Arts returned to Bowie, Maryland on November 1, 2023. Located at 3120 Belair Dr. in Partnership with the Christian Community Presbyterian Church (CCPC). Celebrating 75 years of providing professional education in ballet, NBIA is known for the numerous professional dancers and teachers it has trained over the years.

Equally important to NBIA offers early training for young children ages four through twelve using the Cecchetti Method from Kinder Ballet through the Childrens Grades One through Four. Pre professional students continue the Cecchetti Method working in the Major Syllabus Elementary through Diploma. Teachers in training are prepared to stand for the Teachers Exams in Grade One through Diploma. NBIA accepts new students throughout the year and offers a three-week Cecchetti Intensive in August for students and Teachers. Ballet for Adults will begin in January based on the Silver Swan concept.

We are delighted to be back in Bowie and look forward to renewing our relationship with the community. Contact NBIA at 240 508-7350, [nbiainfo@nationalballet.com](mailto:nbiainfo@nationalballet.com), [www.nationalballet.com](http://www.nationalballet.com).

## *Adult Education*

Adult Education classes are on Sundays after worship. Join us in person at the church or online via this link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83808300041> Meeting ID: 838 0830 0041 Or dial 1-301-715-8592

### **January Adult Ed Classes: *It Starts with the Heart***

- Jan. 7**– NO ADULT ED: Un-decking the Halls  
**Jan. 14** – Mission Project (Applying Martin Luther King Jr's call for Service.) Feel free to join us!  
**Jan. 21** –Rachel Oben and Gussie Assam, God in Medicine  
**Jan. 28** – Patti Cable, AED & CPR

### **February Adult Ed Classes: *Digging Deeper***

- Feb. 4**–NO ADULT ED: Pastor Kori 1-Year Anniversary Luncheon  
**Feb. 11**–NO ADULT ED: Congregational Annual Meeting  
**Feb. 18**–Karin Rice, Breaking Habits and Making New Ones for Lent  
**Feb. 25**–Mary Brock, Archeological Dig in Israel

## *All Church Potluck*

Pastor Kori began her ministry with us on January 30, 2023. We are going to celebrate our first anniversary together with an all-church potluck on Sunday, February 4. Pull out your favorite recipes and fix a dish to share with one another. Sharing a meal together is always fun. Please plan to come.

Traditionally, the first anniversary is the paper anniversary. So, let's all flood Pastor Kori with paper notes thanking her for all she has done for CCPC during our first year together. When you get your notes written, please put them in the box in the atrium.

## *Alternative Christmas Gift Market*

Thank you to all of the Mission team, to Discovery Circle who set up and decorated tables, and to all the members who represented organizations at the tables. Thank you also to Cyd and Bill Radden-Lesage, Robin Seekford, Rachel Oben and all the wonderful soup donators and kitchen helpers. We will have a total of what was given for the next Caller. We would also like to give recognition and a big thank you to Doris Kobe who started this wonderful event, to Peggy Oates who carried it on for many years, to Sharon McNamara who retired this year, and to all the Market leaders we haven't been able to identify. This event and the many organizations who benefit owe much to them.

## *Celebration Choir*

Our Celebration Choir is looking for new members! Come help us make a joyful noise to the Lord! The new year is the PERFECT time to try something new! We rehearse on Sunday mornings at 8:45am and the first Thursday of each month, 2:00-3:00 p.m.  
If interested, please speak with Rick.

## *Children's Music Ministry*

Our children's music ministry will begin again this Sunday, January 7! Carillon, the children's handbell choir, will rehearse 11:10-11:25 in the choir room.  
We look forward to ringing with Clinquant on Sunday, January 28th. The Sunday School Choir will rehearse 11:30-11:45 in the Sunday School room.  
We will be singing with the Celebration Choir on Palm Sunday, March 24th.

## *Hudson House*

We are expecting to have our first occupant in Hudson House in January. Everything in Hudson House is ready to go. Thank you again to all who have donated items for Hudson House. There are a few more items that we are in need of: Blankets (for Full Size bed); Standing Lamp; and Drinking Glasses (Plastic preferred). Please email Kris Ross, Julia Monroe, or Donna Hopkins if you have any of these items to donate.

## *Warm Nights*

### ***CCPC is supporting the Warm Nights program from January 14–20, 2024***

The program is managed by Community Crisis Services, Inc (CCSI). Since the pandemic, CCSI has hosted families in need of shelter in hotels instead of in churches. We are making lunches January 13 and January 15-19 at 1:00 in Dodds Hall to support the program. Youth are leading sandwich making on January 13, but are always open to help. Monday, January 15 through Thursday, January 19, we need volunteers at 1:00pm in Dodds Hall to help with sandwich making and assembling lunches. Women's circles are welcome. Sign up is in the Atrium or you can contact Kris Ross ([educatorkris@gmail.com](mailto:educatorkris@gmail.com)), Julia Monroe ([juliaL11@verizon.net](mailto:juliaL11@verizon.net)), or Donna Hopkins ([donyay100@aol.com](mailto:donyay100@aol.com)).

## *Women's Retreat*

Mark your calendars for March 8–10! The women of CCPC are invited to a weekend of restoration and inspiration at Rhodes Grove Conference Center in Chambersburg PA. To register, see Sue Evans or Marty Sippel in the atrium, or go **online** (<http://ccpc.bowiemd.org/2024pwoc-retreat>) to reserve your spot.

Early bird discount for registrations paid in full by Sunday, February 4. Scholarships are available.