

Pastor's Corner: A Welcome Break in the Winter

I am so glad to close the books on January 2009. The stock market had its worst January in decades. That is not good since market history demonstrates that "as January goes, so goes the year." The weather record shows that this January was one of the coldest in recent years. That means most of us have been shut inside for weeks and listening to bad news. The walls and our moods are closing in on us. So how great was it to have the warm and sunny Sunday to give us a taste of better days to come! What a glorious day the first day of February brought. The Super Bowl was a fabulous game and Bruce Springsteen and the E-Street Band showed they still have some life left in them. Wasn't it ironic that only the 58-year-old rock star, who has almost lost his voice, was allowed to perform live?

Another highlight of this winter respite was the jam packed "Night at CCPC." This annual talent and variety show attracted a throng of cabin-fever-stricken fans that laughed at every joke and appreciated every song. Linda Miller and Melodie Dziduch put together a program that featured everything from an old time radio show to the always hilarious Bob Brutout skits. The Bell Choir donned their blue shirts and Mickey Mouse ears! James Rada got a tremendous ovation by just walking on stage. Was it the black suit or the respect the crowd has for his humor?

Many of you are aware that a son of the church, Rick Arnold, is set to blast off on the Space Shuttle Discovery at 7:28 a.m. on February 12th. Rick, son of Dick and Nancy Arnold, was very active in the church and worked with Young Life in Bowie. He taught high school science in various places around the world before becoming an astronaut five years ago. Rick is married to another child of the church, Eloise, the daughter of Margaret Miller and is the sister of Barry Miller. Rick and Eloise have two daughters, Carrie (13) and Jessica (11). The Discovery will link up with the International Space Station. Rick will take three space walks during which he will install new solar panels on the Space Station. A large contingent of current and former CCPC members will be down in Florida for the launch. I will be one of the spectators. Please pray for Rick and his six fellow astronauts as they venture into space.

I leave you with Psalm 57:5 "Be exalted, O God, above the heaven; let your glory be over all the earth."

Grace and peace, *James Brassard*

Worship Notes

Worship on February 8, 2009

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time
(9:30 & 11 AM)

Even the most spiritual person faces crises. Stuff happens even to the best of us. On Sunday we will visit the story of David in I Samuel 22 as he battles debt, distress and discouragement while holed up in a cave. In this story and in Psalm 57, which David later wrote about his experience in the cave, we find a good case study for successful crisis management.

Reception After the Baptism of RyanPhilippe Ako Oben Sunday, February 8 (after the second service)

James and Rachel Oben invite you to celebrate the baptism of their son, RyanPhilippe Ako Oben, after the second service in Dodds Hall. Please join them for fellowship and refreshments to mark this joyous occasion as we welcome RyanPhilippe into the life of CCPC.

CCPC's Website To Be Launched

Final tweaking of the long awaited CCPC updated website is in progress with the expectation of launching in the next week or so. When you arrive on the home page, you will find the navigation links on the left, content in the center column, and useful links on the right. The right column is also the future home to pictures. Most important, however, is that the content is current and contains links to related pages. Our website will continue to expand with new content but the basic information is now there.

Heartfelt appreciation to each of the councils, committees, circles and groups that worked on the content of their sections--through extensive discussions and multiple drafts. Thank you to Session and the Board of Deacons for the informative feedback on our current page which was incorporated into the new design. Early on, the Web Committee, which is part of the Outreach and Evangelism Council, conducted reviews of the present site, reviewed other sites for ideas, developed categories to organize information, and provided feedback on drafts. Thank you to Web Committee members Margaret Hallau, Lara Clemence, Dennis Evans, Anita Pesses, Miriam Salisbury, and Sharon Youngdahl for your hard work and insightful comments. Dennis Evans serves as our webmaster and Margaret Hallau is the content editor. If you have feedback on the site or need information to be posted, please send it to Margaret at ccpcpa@verizon.net.

New Adult Education Offering

Doris Kobe is leading discussions from the Faith and Reason series at 11:00 a.m. in the conference room.

We will be using a video of Dr. Dykes remarks being discussed by a panel to stimulate our discussion. These are very thought provoking episodes. On Sunday, Feb. 8, we will see and discuss "*Is What We Believe about Jesus Important?*" The guest speakers on the panel are Marcus Borg, Tex Sample and David Dykes, Jr.

Newcomers Reception

Have you been attending CCPC and are interested in finding out about us? The Outreach and Evangelism Council would like to invite you to a reception to learn about the life and ministry of CCPC and to meet our staff and volunteers. The reception will be after the 11 AM service on February 15 in Dodds Hall for about an hour. It will include light refreshments and child care will be provided. We look forward to getting to know you and answering any questions you might have. For additional information, feel free to contact Margaret Hallau, Pastoral Assistant, at ccpcpa@verizon.net or 301-262-6008.

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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.

*** Next Caller Distribution: 2/10/09 ***

Articles are due by Thursday, 2/5.

Events at CCPC ...

AARP Tax-Aide—Tuesdays, 2/3 through 4/14

CCPC is hosting the AARP Tax-Aide program in Dodds Hall from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Tuesdays during tax time. There is no charge for this service. Age 60 and over with income of \$50,000 or less will receive priority. Others are screened.

For appointments call 301-809-2300 between 1-2 p.m., weekdays. This service is open to our community so please share this information with those who might benefit from it.

Adult Education Offering—Sunday, February 8th (9:30 AM) in the conference room.

Jen Woods moderates a discussion based on the video series: “Living the Questions.

Youth Groups—Sunday, February 8th (5 PM) Meet in the Senior High Room

Health and Healing—Tuesday, February 17th (9:30 AM) in the Parlor.

CCPC Kids Movie Night—Friday, February 20th (7 PM) CCPC Kids Worship Center.

Lenten Dinners

On each Friday in Lent (February 27 - April 3 at 6:30 p.m.), we gather in Dodds Hall for Lenten dinners that are hosted by different CCPC groups. These dinners are a time to gather with friends and newcomers to enjoy fellowship during this season of preparation for Easter. The CCPC Youth Group will host the first Lenten dinner on February 27 with Presbyterian Cheese Steaks. Lenten dinners are good opportunities to bring neighbors to experience CCPC hospitality.

Cost: \$3.00/person, \$2.00 for kids, \$10 maximum per family.

Capital Area Food Bank—Saturday, February 28th (8:15 AM-12:30 PM) Downtown Washington, DC

Meet at CCPC at 8:15AM to carpool. Note: The trip to the Capital Area Food Bank is scheduled for February 28th to coincide with the 30-Hour Famine activity. This 4th Saturday is for February only. We return to the 3rd Saturday of the month in March. Thanks, Jo Bolig.

30 Hour Famine—Saturday, February 28th

After a visit to the Capital Area Food Bank, the Youth Group will spend Saturday evening at CCPC and break their fast with communion at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday.

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