

“God saw all that he had made, and it was very good ...”
Genesis 1:31

On Monday, March 23rd, CCPC hosted Greater Washington Interfaith Power and Light's (GWIPL) "Inside Greening Your Congregation" for faith communities in our area. GWIPL is a non-profit initiative that helps congregations, religious institutions and others in the Washington, DC area work for a more just, sustainable and healthier creation by reducing the threat of global warming. Individuals from All Saints Lutheran Church, CCPC, Goodloe Memorial Unitarian Universalist Congregation, St. Mary's Catholic Church, St. Matthews United Methodist, St. George's and Unity Center of Light joined GWIPL Director Allison Fisher in sharing ideas about how they are answering the call to protect creation.

Like other congregations, CCPC uses glass mugs and free trade coffee for coffee hour, participates in recycling programs, and has replaced windows. Other participants shared information about green paper products and programs to replace light bulbs. One congregation has established a certified wildlife habitat with native plants and a rain garden while another has planted a garden.

Rather than being seen as a separate ministry, concern for creation should be a lens or a filter so that each committee has a green component. Keeping track of people who have made suggestions, what we have accomplished and what we want to do along with having an annual event, such as an environment fair, integrates an environmental ministry into the life of a congregation with potential impact on our homes and workplaces.

Special thanks to Sheree Ruhl for her work in organizing this event. If you are interested in learning more and being part of an environmental stewardship team here at CCPC, please contact Sheree at 301-346-2368.

In His service together,
Margaret Hallau

Worship Notes

Worship on March 29, 2009

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

Year after year, study after study show that one of the keys to longevity and good health is to develop a habit of gratitude and to let go of past hurts. Jesus made forgiveness a cardinal human virtue. But is forgiveness a human activity-- something we just do? Or, is it a divine work in us?

This Sunday we will tackle this central Biblical theme in drama, song and story. The text is Matthew 18:21-22 where Peter asks Jesus how many times he must forgive.

Lenten Dinners—Each Friday in Lent (through April 3) 6:30 p.m., in Dodds Hall. Cost: \$3.00/person, \$2.00 for kids, \$10 maximum per family. On Friday, March 27 (International Meal), April 3 (Sloppy Joes by the Board of Deacons). **There will be activities for children from 7:00-7:30 p.m. in the Children's Worship Center.**

Exploring New Areas of Ministry

During the first weekend in March, sixty seven women explored their spiritual gifts while having a delightful time at the Rhodes Gove Conference Center in Pennsylvania. Each of the nine small groups identified ways to use their gifts. Some of the new areas of ministry that we, as the church, might want to explore are listed below. (The complete list of ideas has been distributed to Session and retreat participants.)

If there are ideas that resonate with you (or other ideas you'd like to pursue), here are some ways to make them happen. Committees and councils welcome new members* so consider joining Adult Education, Building and Grounds, Children's Ministry, Outreach and Evangelism, Parish Life, Mission, Youth, or Worship. You can share your ideas with the Board of Deacons. You can also take advantage of the upcoming Time and Talent Survey to indicate areas you are interested in. (There will be more consistent follow up on this survey to address the concern that people who have expressed an interest have not been contacted.)

Areas of Ministry to Explore

- Establish ministry for people who are post-youth group and pre-marriage and children
- Establish a ministry for young couples
- Re-establish Supper Clubs
- Lead a breast cancer support group
- Set up dental team to go to underprivileged areas to help with dentistry work
- Organize a CCPC "take-out" ministry for those in need of meals
- Set up a family circle ministry – "Mariners"
- Establish In-home small group Bible study
- Focus on non-retired men: retreat/Saturday prayer breakfasts/book clubs for non-retired folks
- Set up a creative arts ministry
- Help teach others new technology
- Mentor to teenage mothers
- Develop a monthly service group to focus on specific community needs
- Organize groups of folks to assist people who can't get out to do lawn and house maintenance

*Contact these chairpersons for more information or to share your ideas:

Board of Deacons-Bridget Peters, Adult Education-Marshall Saylor, Building and Grounds-Skip Oates, Children's Ministry-Myrna Webb, Outreach and Evangelism-Margaret Hallau, Parish Life-Al Wimbish, Mission-Tracy Backus, Youth-James Rada, Worship-Kathy Sprouse.

We would like to thank everyone who helped provide so many types of support and assistance to Elvira Little during the last years of her life. We especially thank Marge and Bill Miller, who brought her to church for over 8 years. Dee McCarty and Ron and Pat Stokes also contributed much time and effort toward providing her companionship and transportation. And thanks to all of you who took time to greet her on Sunday mornings, even after her abilities to recognize you and respond to you had diminished. CCPC truly served as her adopted family, regularly ministering to her, and showing her the face of Christ. We also are grateful to all that helped make her service on Sunday a wonderful celebration of her life of faith and witness. We especially thank Dick Neff, Margaret Hallau, Susan and John Rogel, Carl Neumann, and a host of helpers in the kitchen. Not only did you pay tribute to Elvira, but you also lightened our burden, and we are grateful.

Charles and Marjorie Tanner

Events at CCPC ...

AARP Tax-Aide—Tuesdays through 4/14

CCPC is hosting the AARP Tax-Aide program in Dodds Hall from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. There is no charge for this service. Age 60 and over with income of \$50,000 or less receive priority. Others are screened. For appointments call 301-809-2300 between 1-2 p.m., weekdays. This service is open to our community.

Spring Campus Clean Up—Saturday, March 28th

From 8:30AM to noon. (Lunch will be served). Spring has arrived and we need to clean up the church yard and put mulch around the flower beds. We need you to bring rakes, wheel barrows, hedge trimmers and weed whackers to clean up the yard. The kitchen painting has been put off until further preparatory work can be completed.



Great Plots Going Fast!!!!

CCPC's campus looks fabulous because of the loving care of people like you who adopt flower beds and mow grass. There are still several choice beds available for adoption or areas for mowing so sign up in the atrium today.

Calling CCPC Photographers

Planning is underway for our new CCPC directory. As an alternative to a commercial company, we are going to work with an on-line service, Instant Church Directory. This will require that we take our own photographs so we will set up several stations for taking pictures on Saturday, April 18; Saturday, May 2 and Sunday, May 3. If you are a photographer who is interested in working on this project, please contact Margaret Hallau (ccpcpa@verizon.net or 301-262-6008).

Take Me Out to the Ballgame!

CCPC's softball team will begin its spring season as a member of the Bowie Interfaith Recreation Council's men's league on April 14. Games are played on local fields in the evening. If you are interested in playing, contact Bob Chroniger at bobchroniger@mirs.com or call him at 310-262-1700 ext 222. While this is a men's league, women who feel comfortable playing against men are also welcome to participate.

The CCPC team will be participating in an all day tournament beginning at 9:00 AM on April 25 to raise funds for Children's Hospital, playing multiple games in search of the championship. The games will be played at the Allen Pond and Black Sox fields. Come out and root for our players!

*** Next Caller Distribution: 3/31/09 ***

Articles are due by Thursday, 3/26.

It's time to order Easter lilies!

The order forms are on the table in the atrium. The prices are \$11.00 for a 7" lily and \$14 for a 9" lily. You can put your completed form with attached payment in the collection plate or in the Flower Committee mailbox in the office. Orders need to be turned in by Palm Sunday.



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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.