

December 2016

# The Voice of Faith

Dear Faith Family,

It is the week before Christmas as I write this. I had no meetings last night, so I went home and scrubbed my floors, having discovered a technique that I hoped would clean the grout between the tiles. Half way through this chore, it occurred to me that this was a ridiculous thing to be doing the week before Christmas! No one is going to notice that my bathroom floor is clean! However, maybe I was motivated by the looming new year. Maybe I wanted to have a clean start so I cleaned my floors! In a weird way, this scenario makes sense to me.

Even in these times when nothing much seems hopeful, a new year is welcome. Even though some things we might want to change won't, there is still the anticipation of a blank canvas in our personal lives on which to create something new. I am reminded of that rather trite saying, "Bloom where you are planted". OK, so maybe we can't change the tax bill, or gun violence, or...the list is simply too long. But, we can bloom where we are planted. We can do something creative and new in our lives and even in the lives of those around us. A new year gives us permission to think about the ways we can give life and nourishment and peace to those in our own orbit.

In addition, our faith tells us that, no matter how bleak things seem, God is faithful. As the hymn puts it:

Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!  
Morning by morning new mercies I see:  
All I have needed thy hand hath provided -  
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

I believe we will see new mercies in 2018! After all, I have clean floors don't I?

You are loved,

Christa

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Please send articles and photos for the Voice of Faith by the 15 of the month. [seekfaith@faithpcbalt.org](mailto:seekfaith@faithpcbalt.org)

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## WORSHIP

### Sundays at 10:45

Baptism of the Lord

January 7

John 1:35-51

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Second Sunday after Epiphany

January 14

John 2:1-11

The wedding at Cana

Third Sunday after Epiphany

January 21

John 2:13-25

Jesus cleanses the temple

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

John 3:1-21

Nicodemus

### Wednesdays Bible Study

11:00 a.m. in Woodbourne Room

Join Rev. Christa Burns and friends for a lively discussion of the upcoming Sunday lesson. Everyone is welcome! No preparation is required.

January 3 – John 1:35-51

January 10 – John 2:1-11

January 17 – John 2:13-25

January 24 – John 3:1-21

January 31 – John 4:1-42

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Robin Nemser, *chair*

### Adult Nurture

*Sundays at 9:15 in Woodmont Room*

### Baltimore Post Freddy Gray

#### January Topics

7 – Role of Cultural Institutions

**Jeannie L. Howe**

14 – Changing the Narrative

**Heather Harvison**

21 – The Mayor's Program to Reduce Violence in Baltimore

**Mayor's Office of Criminal Justice**

28 – The Power of Peace: 40 West Faith Communities Working Together for Peace.

**Rev. Michael Asbury Hunt**



**Jeannie L. Howe**, *Executive Director of Greater Baltimore Alliance (GBCA)*

The GBCA a regional, membership organization that was organized by artists and cultural organizations to unify, nurture and promote the cultural sector in Baltimore and its five surrounding counties. Under her leadership, GBCA has transformed and expanded its services to the cultural community, including: new professional development initiatives for artists and emerging arts management leaders of color; audience development strategies; supported artists with awards and grants; and advocated for the health, visibility, and financial strength of the sector.

Prior to joining GBCA, Howe was founder and president of BayCliff Associates, and provided management and fundraising consultation for nonprofit clients, including Everyman Theatre. Her career has included leadership positions with a range of nonprofit organizations including the Alley Theatre, Baltimore Reads, and The Marrow Foundation. Howe has held many volunteer positions including her current service on the Baltimore Orchard Project and Callaway Garrison Improvement Association Boards of Directors. Howe received a M.A. in Theatre from Miami University of Ohio and a B.A. in Theatre from St. Mary's College of Maryland. In 2014, the Daily Record recognized her as one of Maryland's Top 100 Women.



**Heather Harvison,**

*Founder and Executive Director*

As Founder and Executive Director of Sisters Circle, Heather is responsible for development and fundraising, board relations, communications and marketing, and overall strategic direction and leadership. Heather was named one of The Daily Record's 2014 Top 100 Women; VIP List, Successful by 40; and up and comer on their list of influential Marylanders in Philanthropy. In 2016, she was honored with the Junior League's Woman of Distinction Award. She was also featured on NBC's Nightly News with Brian Williams and the Today Show, as well as Baltimore Magazine and The Baltimore Sun. Heather holds a Masters of Arts in Teaching from the Johns Hopkins University and a bachelor's degree in communications with a concentration in public relations and advertising from Mary

Baldwin College. She is a 2009 graduate of The Leadership program through the Greater Baltimore Committee.



**Rev. Michael Asbury Hunt,**

*Pastor for Leadership and Community Engagement*

A native of Baltimore, Michael received his Master of Divinity from Candler School of Theology, Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia. Rev. Mike's ministry has had him serving as a university/college administrator, middle & high school math instructor, musical vocalist and director, as well as a social justice educator, shaping the lives of the leaders of today. Michael serves as Pastor for Leadership and Community Engagement at The Open Church of Maryland that seeks to glorify God and edify the world through radically inclusive love, courageous social justice activism, and compassionate interfaith collaboration.

## WORSHIP & ARTS

Judy Sperling, chair

### Advent at Faith and Advent Fest

Thank you to everyone who donated crafts and goods, who helped and attended the Advent Fest. It was a wonderful success that raised over \$1700 for the mission of Faith.



Lunch was vegetarian soup and white chili with a wonderful selection of desserts! The much requested recipe is below.

## White Chili

2-3 chicken breasts (bake at 350 degrees with a little olive oil, salt, and pepper for about ½ hour then cut up into little pieces)  
Can of Mild Rotel  
Can of cream of chicken soup  
Can of corn (drained)  
Can of creamed corn  
Two cans of white beans--great northern or cannelli (drained)  
Can of chicken broth  
Pack of white chicken chili seasoning  
Mix in crock pot and cook on low for several hours

## Joy! The 2017 Christmas Pageant

They Came, They Dressed...and Blessed Us All  
by Susan Johnston



School kids squabbled and acted like kids.

School kids squabbled and acted like kids. The desire for happiness was answered: You need a shift in perspective! Get outside yourself and think about others! Have compassion! Even people who are acting mean is deserving of God's love, and you are here to share it!

All eighteen (count them!) cast members were most cooperative, and even though we had only partial attendance at both rehearsals (neither one in the sanctuary; thank goodness for our new chapel,) EVERYONE learned their lines, and all went smoothly.

The children were pure sweetness. Kids were real; angelic voices came through clearly; narration was smooth. Shepherds were adorable. Mary and Joseph held hands walking toward the manger, and Mary was beatific. Our two soloists sang so beautifully they brought tears to listeners' eyes!



The pageant could not happen without the entire village: Samuel, Robin, the parents, Ron—thanks a million to everyone. And it goes without saying: Gabriella, Isabel, Veronica, Renatta, Peyton, James, Hudson, Izzie, Lejind, Franny, Carly, Grail, Ella, Bennett, Linden, Campbell, Eva, Ivy. We love you!

## FAITH FAMILY LIFE

### Reception of New Members



On Sunday, December 17, Faith Church received two new members. During the worship service, Clerk of Session Mike Billings presented Mozella Williams and Curtis Moore, who were welcomed by the Session prior to the service. And, as is the custom at Faith, members of the congregation came forward to greet these wonderful additions to our Faith family.



**Mozella Williams** (who is happy to go by "Mo") is actually Doctor Williams. A native of Iowa, Mo graduated from Morehouse School of Medicine, which is recognized as one of the nation's leading educators of primary care physicians. Mo came to Baltimore to do a residency in family medicine. She now practices in Gaithersburg, making the daily commute from her Mount Washington home.



**Curtis Moore** was born and raised in Baltimore. He credits much of his own discipline to a very strict mother whose instruction included regular church attendance. He enjoyed a career as a home mortgage lender, doing much of his business in neighborhoods near our church. So, he can tell you with authority about demographic and real estate changes in our community. Curtis has three grown children, one of whom lives in his former home in the vicinity of Northwood.

Get to know Mo and Curtis. We are fortunate to have these great new members!

### Happy January Birthday!

- 1<sup>st</sup> John Trapp
- 10<sup>th</sup> Jasmine Figueuroa
- 12<sup>th</sup> Brinley Tebit
- 17<sup>th</sup> Emma Pope
- 20<sup>th</sup> Karen Murrill-Roberts
- 22<sup>nd</sup> Jeffery Luminski
- 24<sup>th</sup> Nancy Pohl
- 27<sup>th</sup> Dave Brown
- 28<sup>th</sup> David Nesbitt

If you would like your birthday added or if it is incorrect, please contact the church office.

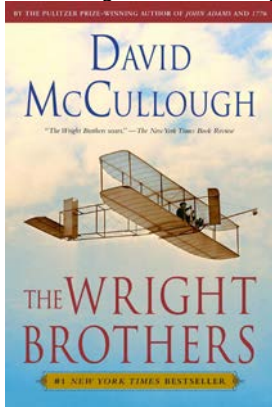
## Please Keep in Your Prayers

Betty Bunce  
Christian Dunyoh  
Mildred Miller  
Esmie & Leon Stirling  
Nancy Stutzer  
Betty Lou Tampieri  
Dot Weller

Please send your prayer requests to Christa Burns, *Pastor* 410-435-4330, and/or Sharon Will 410-254-6788. Prayers are answered!

## Book Club

January 22, 7:00 p.m.



The Flight theme continues in January with David McCullough's *The Wright Brothers*. We will meet at the Nesbitts, all are welcome.

"The Wright Brothers will do more than help Americans tell Orville from Wilbur. Fighting the persistent myth of invention's 'aha' moment, McCullough shows the importance of experiment, error and inspiration in nature. Although they studied early gliders, Orville and Wilbur also watched birds. 'Learning the secret of flight from a bird,' Orville said, 'is a good deal like learning the secret of magic from a magician.' Likewise, to learn history from a master storyteller is to relive the past." Bruce Watson, *San Francisco Chronicle*

## Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of the Faith Presbyterian Church of Baltimore City will be held following worship on January 21. We'll sit down for a light lunch together and then have the meeting.

The business will include:

The presentation of the 2018 budget and the change to the Pastor's Call.

Please make every effort to attend.

## Stewardship

Thank you for making our "Share Faith" stewardship campaign a great success! To date, Faith has received pledges from eight more individuals and families with the overall total nearly \$227,000, an increase of \$13,000 over last year's. Although our campaign has formally ended, we would be happy to receive more commitments. Please let the Scott Bissett, Carl Herber or the church office know.

Thanks are due for a successful stewardship campaign to members of the committee: co-chairs Scott Bissett and Carl Herber, members Anna Burns, Paula Burger, Bill Millen, Gail Poorbaugh, Neil Nemser, and Christa Burns, *ex officio*. However, most importantly, thanks again to all who have committed to Share Faith, both financially and personally.

## 2017 Contribution Statements and End of Year

Faith will close out the year on January 8, 2018. The final contributions for 2017 will be due then; checks received after this date will be recorded as 2018.

Please date checks in the year you would like them recorded. Call the office with questions about your pledge or if you would like your 2017 Contribution report before mid-January.

## 2018 Per Capita

The Per Capita for this year is 34.38. This is a per member; use the blue envelope or note "per capita" in the memo of your check.

## Sign Language



*The Bissett's Home*

Recently, our own Scott Bissett was quoted in a Baltimore Sun article about the reaction of Roland Park residents to yard signs expressing views on immigration and race. Scott and Katherine have a "Hate Has No Home Here" sign and an "All Are Welcome Here" sign in their yard. (See the accompanying photo.) Apparently, some folks are concerned about what they see as clutter; others think some messages are political and therefore not appropriate. In response, the neighborhood association urged residents to remove them.

Scott's comment when asked was that the signs reflect the values of their family and he therefore saw nothing at all inappropriate about a public recognition of such sentiments. Way to go Scott!

Link to article click [here](#)

If you have one of these signs in your yard, snap a picture and email it to the church office so we can share it in an upcoming Voice of Faith. Let's spread the word proudly that "Hate Has No Home Here." We need these signs of hope!

## Thank You!

To everyone who donated to the Christmas Flowers, the DEAR Fund and Bread Fund.

## DEAR Fund

The DEAR Fund was created by Faith's Board of Deacons to provide financial assistance to any Faith Church member in an emergency situation. A Faith member may contact a committee member, the pastor, or the parish administrator to request assistance. An application is filled out confidentially and the committee lets the member know if the request is approved and the amount. Please consider making a contribution to this important fund; check DEAR Fund on pew envelope or in the memo of your check.

## The Bread Fund

The Bread fund is used to provide food oriented support for our neighbors in need. This fund is used to provide Thanksgiving baskets to needy families as well as to provide meal items for events at Harford House when needed. Please consider making a contribution to this important fund; check Bread Fund on pew envelope or in the memo of your check.

## Music Fund

The donations to the Music Fund are used to support Faith's music ministry including special musicians, and purchasing of anthems and choral music. Please consider making a contribution to this important fund; note Music Fund in the memo of your check.





## *Christmas Flowers*

Beverly Baker	In Memory of James D. Baker, Sr.
Kay Ballard	In Memory of Loved Ones;
	Her Parents, Lawrence & Marie Frey
The Bernard Family	In Memory of Eugen White Nickerson III;
	Martha Key & Dick Bernard
Paula Burger	In Memory of Anna & Ernest Phillips;
	Fannie & Willard Burger
Christa Burns	In Memory of Stan Burns; Our Grandparents;
	Nick Marinacci
John & Debra Colmers	In Memory of Richard Paul;
	Rosmarie & Rudolf Colmers
	In Celebration of Jean Longenbach
Phyllis Compton	In Memory of William Compton
	In Celebration of Frances Compton
Susan Dockman	In Memory of Loved Ones
Mercy Dunyoh	In Memory of Carolyn Dunyoh
The Herber Family	In Memory of James Herber
Susan & Lew Johnston	In Memory of Floyd & Polly; Janet
David & Karen Meyers	In Memory of Sylvia Guerra;
	Esther & Roy Meyers
Linda Moultrie-Frank	In Celebration of Paul & Linda Frank
Robin & Neil Nemser	In Celebration of Owen, Wyatt, and Josie
Pat & Jack Nesbitt	In Celebration of Our Family
Gail Poorbaugh	In Memory of William E. Poorbaugh II
Sharon Reinhard	In Memory of Carolyn Witzke
The Seavers-Reale Family	In Memory of Ed "Grammpy" Cookingham;
	Helen Cingolani
The Shirey Family	In Memory of Emma & Ray Sturmer;
	Roselle Shearer
Ron & Judy Sperling	In Memory of Loved Ones
Ron & Judy Sperling	In Celebration of Children & Grandchildren
Audrey & John Trapp	In Memory of Audrey Mae Cousart
Theodore Wallace	In Memory of Alvin Wallace;
	Pearl, Doris, & Marlene
Janice & Maceo Williams	In Memory of Parents:
	Dr. H. Maceo Willams and Harry & Elizabeth
Randal Woodfield	In Memory of George Jenkins

## *Music Fund*

Kay Ballard	In Memory of Loved Ones
The Bernard Family	In Memory of David Riley
Paula Burger	In Celebration of Samuel Springer
John & Debra Colmers	In Memory of George Jenkins
Phyllis Compton	In Celebration of The Choir
Doris Cowan	In Celebration of Randy Woodfield;
	Samuel & the Choir
David & Karen Meyers	In Celebration of Samuel Springer
Pat & Jack Nesbitt	In Celebration of Faith Church Musicians
Gail Poorbaugh	In Memory of Warren E. Chandler
The Pope Family	In Memory of Mildred H. Humphrey
Marshalyne Seavers	
Janice & Maceo Williams	In Memory of Step Mother Leatha Grimes
Randal Woodfield	In Memory of George Jenkins





### *The Bread Fund*


Beverly Baker	In Memory of Carolyn Miller
Kay Ballard	In Memory of Loved Ones
The Bernard Family	In Celebration of Mary Nickerson; Jim Kautz
Jackie Billings	In Celebration of My Grandchildren, Austin & Savannah
Rev. Dr. Donald Boardman & Carol Paige Preston Boardman	In Memory of Charles & Eveland Preston; Rev. Richard Randall Preston; Mr. & Mrs. Harry Boardman, Sr.; Mr. Harry Boardman, Jr.
Doris Cowan	In Memory of Ward Cowan; Loved Ones
David & Karen Meyers	In Memory of Grama Getman In Celebration of Pat Thomson
Pat & Jack Nesbitt	In Celebration of Our Faith Family
Gail Poorbaugh	In Celebration of Bettie Chandler
Marshalynne Seavers	
Norma & Kurt Shirey	In Celebration of Mike & Dawn Shirey's 25 Anniversary
The Shirey Family	In Memory of Richard Shirey; Marge & Forrest Leventy
Pat Thomson	In Memory of the Thomson Family
Mozella Williams	
Janice & Maceo Williams	In Memory of Sister Debois Taylor



### *The Dear Fund*

Kay Ballard	In Memory of Loved Ones
The Bernard Family	In Memory of Haley Tierney
Doris Cowan	In Celebration of Her Children & Grandchildren; Her Faith Family
Susan & Lew Johnston	
David & Karen Meyers	In Memory of Albert & Elvira Carle In Celebration of Judy & Ron Sperling
The Pope Family	In Celebration of Family & Friends
Sharon Reinhard	In Memory of Carolyn Witzke
Nancy Stutzer	In Memory of Arthur Stutzer, Jr.; David C. Stutzer
Audrey & John Trapp	In Memory of Our Loved Ones In Celebration of Our Families
Sharon Will	In Memory of Edwin Will
Mozella Williams	
Janice & Maceo Williams	In Memory of Brother McArthur Williams

# January

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
	<b>1</b> New Year's Day Office Closed	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 6:30PM-WB Bells 7:30PM-CR Choir	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> Epiphany of the Lord
 <b>7</b> Baptism of the Lord 9:15AM – WB Adult Forum 10:45AM – ST Worship	<b>8</b> 7:00PM – WB Session	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> 11:00AM – WB Bible Study	<b>11</b> 6:30PM-WB Bells 7:30PM-CR Choir	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b> 9:15AM – WB Adult Forum 10:45AM – ST Worship	<b>15</b> MLK Day Office Closed	<b>16</b> 7:00pm – WM Men's Group	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 6:30PM-WB Bells 7:30PM-CR Choir	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b> 9:15AM – WB Adult Forum 10:45AM – ST Worship Noon – FH Annual Meeting	<b>22</b> 7:00PM – OC Book Club	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 11:00AM – WB Bible Study	<b>25</b> 6:30PM-WB Bells 7:30PM-CR Choir	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> 9:15AM – WB Adult Forum 10:45AM – ST Worship	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> 11:00AM – WB Bible Study		<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>
				<b>Locations</b> ST – Sanctuary WB – Woodbourne Room WM – Woodmont Room FH – Fellowship Hall OC – Off Campus		