

March 2018

The Voice of Faith

HOLY WEEK at Faith Church

Palm Sunday – March 25

10:00 a.m. Breakfast in Fellowship Hall
Procession of Palms
10:45 a.m. Worship

Holy Thursday – March 29

7:00 p.m. Worship with
communion

EASTER – April 1

Music begins at 10:30 a.m.
10:45 a.m. Service of Worship with
organ, brass, choir,
& communion
*Egg Hunt on the front lawn
following worship*

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Please send articles and photos for the Voice of Faith by the 15 of the month. seekfaith@faithpcbalt.org

WORSHIP

Sundays at 10:45

Third Sunday in Lent

March 4

John 6:35-40

I am the bread of life

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 11

Mathews 6:5-8

"Connected"

Rev. Michael Hunt *preaching*

Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 18

Jeremiah 31:31-34

John 12:20-33

"Back to the Future"

Rev. Karen V. Brown *preaching*

Palm Sunday

March 25

Psalm 24

John 12:12-15

Maundy Thursday

March 29 at 7:00 p.m.

John 19:23-30

Jesus' last words.

EASTER

April 1

John 20:1-18

The Resurrection of the Lord.

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.

March 7 – John 8:12

March 14 & March 21 no class

March 28 – John 20:1-18

Dear Faith Family,

In recent times, many of us wonder if late night talk show hosts are the sages of our times. Their ability to point out the absurdity of current events and simultaneously make us laugh is a healthy tonic these days. In an interview, Stephen Colbert, one of these pundits, was asked about his faith, specifically his Catholicism. Colbert likened the part his faith plays in his comedy to being a "fool for Christ". To be a fool for Christ means, according to Colbert, to be willing "to be wrong in society, or wrong according to our time, but right according to our conscience, as guided by the Holy Spirit".

The apostle Paul was the first one to point out the possibility that following Christ was going to make us look like fools in the eyes of society:

"We are fools for the sake of Christ, but you are wise in Christ. We are weak, but you are strong, You are held in honor, but we in disrepute. To the present hour we are hungry and thirsty, we are poorly clothed and beaten and homeless, and we grow weary from the work of our own hands. When reviled, we bless; when persecuted, we endure; when slandered we speak kindly. We have become the rubbish of the world, the dregs of all things, to this very day." (1 Corinthians 4:10-13)

Paul wrote these words to Christians in Corinth who had forgotten the humility of Christ. They had, we might say, put on airs. They thought they were better. This is the risk we Americans face as we live in a country in which Christianity is not only legal but often touted as the national religion...better than the other faiths.

Easter falls this year on April Fool's day! I think this coincidence is profoundly appropriate as it reminds us of Paul's admonition to be fools for Christ sake - willing to become weak, or homeless or even imprisoned, as in Paul's case, for the sake of

following Jesus. If we preach beating swords (guns) into plowshares, or the rights of the "least of these" or the belief that in Christ "there is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus" (Galatians 3:28), we surely run the risk of looking like fools. And, if we say out loud that we believe God is more powerful than any earthly ruler, indeed God can even raise the dead - watch out! We will surely sound like idiots!

But...what do we care?

You are loved,

Christa

Adult Nurture

Sundays at 9:15 in Woodmont Room

March 4 – **Jaia Lent**

Grand Voices:

Understanding and Advocating for Grandparents Raising Grandchildren



Jaia Peterson Lent is the Deputy Executive Director at Generations United where she has worked since 2000. Generations United's mission is to improve the lives of children, youth and older people through intergenerational collaboration, public policies and programs.

Jaia provides direction for the National Center on Grandfamilies, a leading voice for issues affecting families headed by grandparents or other relatives. She is a trusted voice on Capitol Hill on issues related to grandfamilies and intergenerational cohesion, having testified before the U.S. Senate Special Committee on Aging and in several briefings. She is a sought-after speaker, nationally-recognized columnist and blogger and respected media resource.

In 2017 Jaia was named one of the Top 50 Influencers in Aging by *Next Avenue*. Under her leadership, legislation has passed to support grandfamilies in areas ranging from housing to family caregiving to child welfare. Jaia holds an MSW from Syracuse University and is a licensed social worker.

March 11 – **Lauren Hill**

International Education in Turbulent Times



A native of Lancaster, PA, **Lauren Hill** has a varied set of skills and interests that have led to diverse educational and professional experiences. In addition to her professional work in architecture and international education, she has combined her loves of travel, language, and service as she traveled to Italy to study architecture, Spain to study Spanish, China to teach English at Tsinghua University in Beijing, and Cuba to study language, history and culture.

Lauren received a BS in Architecture from

the University of Virginia, Masters degrees in Architecture and Urban Planning from the University of Michigan, and subsequently earned a Master of Arts in Intercultural Communication and a Certificate in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages from UMBC. Lauren currently lives in Baltimore with her husband and son, and works at Maryland Institute College of Art as the Assistant Director for International Student Services.

March 18 – **Kristin Herber**
Grateful Lawyer:
A Background in Service



Kristin Herber is Managing Counsel, Litigation for Under Armour, Inc., where she is responsible for managing the company's U.S. and international litigation portfolio including intellectual property, securities, employment, real estate and commercial disputes.

In addition, Kristin serves as the pro bono coordinator for the Under Armour legal department. Prior to joining Under Armour, Kristin was a partner at the Baltimore law firm Tydings & Rosenberg LLP.

Kristin serves on the boards of directors for the Pro Bono Resource Center of Maryland, the Emerging Technology Center and the Roland Park Annual Fund. She also serves as the leader of a seventh grade Girl Scout troop and a coach of Girls on the Run at Roland Park Elementary Middle School.

MUSIC MINISTRY

Voice & Piano Concert



On March 18 at 4:00 p.m. **Shekinah Joy Ravizee**, soprano & our own Minister of Music, **Dr. Samuel Springer** will present a concert of classical works and Spiritual favorites.

Daniel Rich and Friends Concert



A splendid concert with Daniel Rich and friends was held on Friday, February 23 at 7PM. It was a varied concert, featuring Daniel as versatile artist, in solo, duet, trio and ensembles roles.

Seldom heard art songs and arrangement of spirituals of African-American composers were performed. Some highlights: a particularly wrenching trio arrangement of "Were you there?" arranging by Colin Lett, Bettye Jackson King" arrangement of "It's, me Oh Lord" with piano and djembe (African

drum) and the chorus on Richard Smallwood's "Total Praise". It was an enjoyable evening had by all.



Daniel is accompanying Samuel Springer to Cuba to do a masterclass at the Ernesto Lecuona school on Pinar del Rio and to take part in the Sacred Music week in Havana.

WORSHIP & THE ARTS

Judy Sperling, *chair*



At six o'clock on the first day of Lent a gathering of the Faith Family enjoyed a meal together of homemade soup in the "Woodmont Room Café". Following dinner the group moved to the chapel where chairs were arranged in a circle and the warmth of flickering candles provided illumination for the meditative Taizé service consisting of readings, spoken and sung prayers and the receiving of ashes.

DEACONS

Harford House Bingo

Faith will be hosting a Lasagna and Bingo night with our friends at Harford House on Friday, March 16th at 6:00pm. This is always a fun event for fellowship and community.



We are in need of food donations - including lasagna, garlic bread, salad, desserts and drinks. Please let **Anna Burns** or **Karen Burd** know what you can contribute, and be sure to leave any donations in the Faith kitchen by 3:00pm on the 16th. And let us know if you would like to join in the fun at Harford House!

News From CARES

Thank you to all who contributed Valentine's Day cookies to the CARES Pantry. We collected the equivalent of 100+ cookie boxes to be given out at the pantry this week. They were much appreciated.



Please continue to bring in canned goods for the pantry which is in need of canned fruit, kale, beets, spinach, peas, carrots, etc. The pantry could also use fresh produce, especially at this time of year. Produce that does not need to be immediately refrigerated, such as potatoes (any kind), bananas, onions, apples, oranges, etc. would be much appreciated.

SEJ

(Social & Environmental Justice Committee)

Action Request: Contact your Maryland Delegate and tell them to **oppose** HB 100, HB 101, and HB 102 and also to **support** HB 291 and HB 295. House Bills 100, 101, and 102 are "tough on crime" bills that have proven not to reduce crime. House Bills 291 and 295 are "smart on crime" bills that reduce recidivism through education and job-training.

Once again, this message comes to you as a constituent of a House Judiciary Committee legislator, as they hear most of the bills MAJR supports. Because of this, your call or email will be especially powerful in bringing change to Maryland's criminal justice system.

This week we oppose one set of bills and promote another.

"Smart on crime" is better than "tough on crime"

We **oppose** a set of "tough on crime" bills - HB 100, HB 101, and HB 102. Because this is an election year, politicians want to be seen as tough on crime. Unfortunately, studies show that just making prison sentences longer does not make offenders less likely to commit new offenses upon release. What's the alternative?

The better policy is to be "**smart on crime.**" What studies show does prevent new offenses is drug treatment, education and job-training. These measures also cost taxpayers less than longer prison sentences! So, please ask your delegate to vote against these "tough on crime" bills.

The bills we support are smart on crime. We know, when inmates return to society with education and work skills, their recidivism rate is cut in half. So, HB 291 and HB 295 require:

1. that an educational and job-training plan be put into place as soon as

person starts his or her prison term, and

2. that prisoners can earn a "diminution credit" to reduce their confinement as an incentive to obtain a G.E.D., educational degree, or job-skill certification.

Who to contact?

The members of the House Judiciary Committee are listed below. Don't know your legislative district? Go to <http://mdelect.net> and put in your address. Thank you so much for helping to make a difference on these important issues!

Cuba Notes

By Audrey Trapp

Our next visit to our partner churches in Meneses and Iguara will take place June 18-25. Christa and Lauren Hill will be representing Faith on this trip. **If you want to go – and have a passport that does not expire before the end of 2018 – contact Audrey Trapp or Christa immediately.** We will be applying for visas this week.

As we always do, we will ask our friends in Cuba of their needs for supplies and OTC medicines and ask for your donations in the coming months.

At the Advent Festival, many of you purchased notecards and calendars that were made by the Presbytery Partnership team. Faith donated \$182.50 to pay for cell phone minutes for our Cuban pastors as a result of this sale. Thank you to everyone who participated!

And planning ahead, the next Encuentro will take place February 15-22, 2019. Join with other Presbyterians from Baltimore Presbytery in this biannual event. It is a great opportunity for first-time visitors to experience the work of the Presbyterian Church in El Centro Presbytery, Cuba and to visit our partner churches.

FAITH FAMILY LIFE

Happy March Birthday!

2nd Kay Ballard
14th Scott McGill
15th Isabel Aldana
Linden Seavers
Ivy Seavers
20th Nixon Hill
22nd Susan Dockman
23rd Paul Samuel
30th Delevana Brown
Veronica Herber

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
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!

Anniversary Sunday

The first Sunday of February, we celebrate those who have been members for 50 years. During the Moment with Faith Kids we honored Judy & Ron Sperling.



POTUS Potlucks A Lenten Movie Series

We continue with our Lenten Movies Series, POTUS Potlucks, on two March dates. Because of the number of folks involved with Dinners for Eight on March 3, we will NOT have a movie on Sunday, March 4, but instead will do our final two movies on March 11 and March 18.

March 11: **All the Presidents Men**

The film stars Robert Redford and Dustin Hoffman as Bob Woodward and Carl Bernstein; it is based on the 1974 non-fiction book of the same name by Bernstein and Woodward, the two The Washington Post journalists who investigated the Watergate scandal.

March 18: **Dave**

To avoid a potentially explosive scandal when the U.S. President goes into a coma, an affable temp agency owner with an uncanny resemblance is put in his place.



Thursday Crew

Much needed painting of the third floor hallway!



Weekly bulletin folding and mailing.



Out with the old (chairs.) Donated to the Lutheran Mission Society.



Faith Is in the Ban, the Styrofoam Ban.

By Bill Curtis

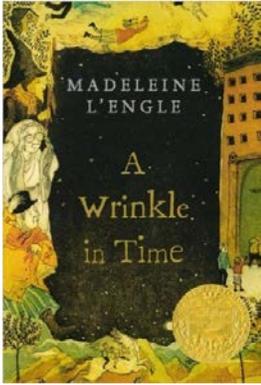


In its February meeting, the Session of Faith Presbyterian Church pledged to no longer use Styrofoam, technically known as Expanded Polystyrene. Polystyrene poses many threats to the environment. Among them are:

- Polystyrene is based on styrene, a neurotoxin and possible carcinogen.
- Polystyrene is a major litter problem. It is light and easily blows out of trash cans. Polystyrene forms a significant percentage of the litter found on Chesapeake Bay beaches and waterways.
- Polystyrene harms wildlife. Many birds mistake pieces of the foam for food. Many birds have been found dead with a stomach full of plastic.
- Polystyrene does not biodegrade, but merely breaks down into very small pieces called microplastics. Once microplastics enter the oceans they remain virtually forever. At present there is no known way to remove microplastics from the oceans.

So we're doing our bit, and pledge as a congregation to no longer use Styrofoam. We'd love to have you join us.

Book Club



After attempting a challenging but rewarding book for February, Book Club members have opted to read for March a classic volume, written initially for adolescents, but containing wisdom for anyone. The selection is Madeleine L'Engle's *A Wrinkle in Time*.

This winner of the 1963 Newbery Medal is a science fiction fantasy that involves the adventures in space and time of a young woman and her friends. They go in search of Meg's father, a scientist who disappeared while engaged in secret work for the government on the tesseract problem. The adventure and flight to another realm (thus the connection to our year-long series on books related to flight) lifts up themes that, for some, have religious significance, and Christian theology, in particular. Many adults re-read this childhood favorite, and it appears to be a popular book club selection for its magic and its insights.

The Book Club will meet on **Monday, March 26 at 7pm** at Pat & Jack Nesbitt's.



The SEJ Committee recommended and the Session approved Faith Church become a member of BUILD (Baltimoreans United In Leadership Development.)

Sign Language



Judy & Ron Sperling's Home.

Do you have a yard sign expressing love and acceptance? Take a photo and send to the church office.

Family Night!



On Friday, Feb. 16, the Christian Education Committee hosted a Family Movie Night for the young families of Faith Presbyterian Church. Dawn Shirey planned and led several crazy "Minute to Win It" games that included shower caps, shaving cream and nylon stockings! After sharing a pizza dinner, we settled in to enjoy "Ice Age", a great wintery, chilly movie for all ages.



Thank you to Dawn, Neil Nemser, Susan Minor, and Chandra Jackson for help in planning and facilitating the event

Super Bowl Party

At 6:00 p.m. friends gathered in Woodmont to watch the Philadelphia Eagle beat the New England Patriots. There was plenty to eat and the cheer about.





FIRST ANNUAL

Latino Racial Justice Circle

COMMUNITY FUN DAY

Saturday, March 10, 2018

1:00 PM - 4:00 PM

ARCHBISHOP BORDERS SCHOOL

3500 Foster Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21224



FREE food, games, children's books, raffle prizes, music and a silent auction.

Our Actions

- Partner with Faith Communities in support of a sanctuary movement that delivers a safe space when the need arises.
- Work with Latino youth and parents to offer a scholarship program in leadership training.
- Identify and raise funds for attorneys who will represent immigration deportation cases.
- Develop and share informational programs that focus on the stories and needs of the Latino Community.
- Stand in solidarity with existing Latino Community groups through prayer and action.

We are requesting toiletries for the Assisi House.

Paid Internships Available for Young Adults!

Answer the Call for Healing Creation



This program provides hands-on entry level experience for those seeking green careers as a stepping stone to a permanent position in their field of choice.

Participants work fulltime at their selected host site and receive extensive leadership and professional development training.

Applicants choose from Full-time internships offered for young adults ages 18-24 years old by organizations working to protect the environment in the Chesapeake Bay watershed beginning August 2018 for one year.

Application portal will open at the beginning of February.
[Click here](#) to apply.

Please remember to mention that you learned about the program from IPC in your application.

For more information contact Bonnie Sorak at bonnie@interfaithchesapeake.org or call 410-609-6852

[Click here](#) to learn how IPC can help you.



March

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>	
				1 6:30PM-WB Bells 7:30PM-CR Choir	2	3 6:00PM – OC Dinner for 8	
 4 9:15AM – WB Adult Forum 10:45AM – ST Worship	5	6 7:00PM – WB Deacons	7 11:00AM – WB Bible Study 7:00PM – OC Lenten Ecumenical Service	8 6:30PM-WB Bells 7:30PM-CR Choir	9	10	
11 9:15AM – WB Adult Forum 10:45AM – ST Worship Daylight Savings Begins	12	13 7:00pm – WM Men's Group	14	15 6:30PM-WB Bells 7:30PM-CR Choir	16 6:00PM-OC Harford House Bingo & Lasagna	17	
18 9:15AM – WB Adult Forum 10:45AM – ST Worship 4:00PM – ST Concert	19 7:00PM – WB Session	20	21	22 6:30PM-WB Bells 7:30PM-CR Choir	23	24	
25 Palm Sunday 10:00AM – FH Breakfast 10:45AM – ST Worship	26	27	28 11:00AM – WB Bible Study	29 Maundy Thursday 7:00PM – ST	30 Good Friday	31	
April 1 EASTER 10:30AM – ST Worship Egg Hunt				Locations ST – Sanctuary WB – Woodbourne Room WM – Woodmont Room FH – Fellowship Hall OC – Off Campus			