

May 2018

The Voice of Faith

Dear Faith Family,

It is such a beautiful day as I write this - a perfect day for baseball! Alas, it is a little painful to watch the Orioles at present. However, there are other options. Both Franny Marinacci and James Herber are playing baseball. Or you could go to a Hopkins game. They are free and, guess what, the Blue Jays win most of the time!

Most of you know that I see a theological dimension in the game of baseball. So I thought I would share a reflection from a friend of my sister's named Milton (we'll forgive that he is a Red Sox fan):

spring training

south of here the boys of summer are planting
the seeds of spring, thawing out their throwing arms,
weeding out errors, practicing and pitching,
stealing a little extra daylight each evening
before the month is out they will teach us, again,
how to tell time, how to make a moment last forever,
how to fail gloriously in this story of hope and heartbreak
of what almost was and what still might be...
there is gospel in those grandstands and forgiveness
in those fields - ye who are weary come home.

Yes. Ye who are weary come home. Your church is waiting.

love,

Christa

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WORSHIP

Sundays at 10:45

Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 6

Philippians 1: 1-18a

Partnership in the Gospel

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Seventh Sunday of Easter

May 13

Philippians 2: 1-13

The Christ Hymn

Youth Sunday

Pentecost

May 20

Acts 2: 1-21

Philippians 4: 4-7

Rejoice in the Lord

Trinity Sunday

May 27

Trinity Sunday

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.

May 2 – Philippians 1: 1-18

May 9 – Philippians 2: 1-13

May 16 – Acts 2: 1-21

May 23 & May 30 – to be determined

Adult Nurture

Sundays at 9:30 in Woodmont Room

May 6 – Anne Lamott's Hallelujah Anyway: Rediscovering Mercy; led by Susan Johnston



Hallelujah Anyway: . Rediscovering Mercy is radical kindness, Anne Lamott writes in her enthralling and heartening book, Hallelujah Anyway. It's the permission you give others--and yourself--to forgive a debt, to absolve the unabsolvable, to let go of the judgment and pain that make life so difficult.

May 13 – Woodbourne McCabe Community; led by Christian Hall, Community Organizer



Christian Hall is a full-time community organizer with Strong City Baltimore, and his position is funded by the Uptown Metro Ministry Group. His work along the York Road Corridor focuses on supporting existing resident leaders while also identifying and training additional leaders and resident activists. Christian received his B.A. in Political Science from McDaniel College and spent two years as an AmeriCorps volunteer in Baltimore before joining Strong City.

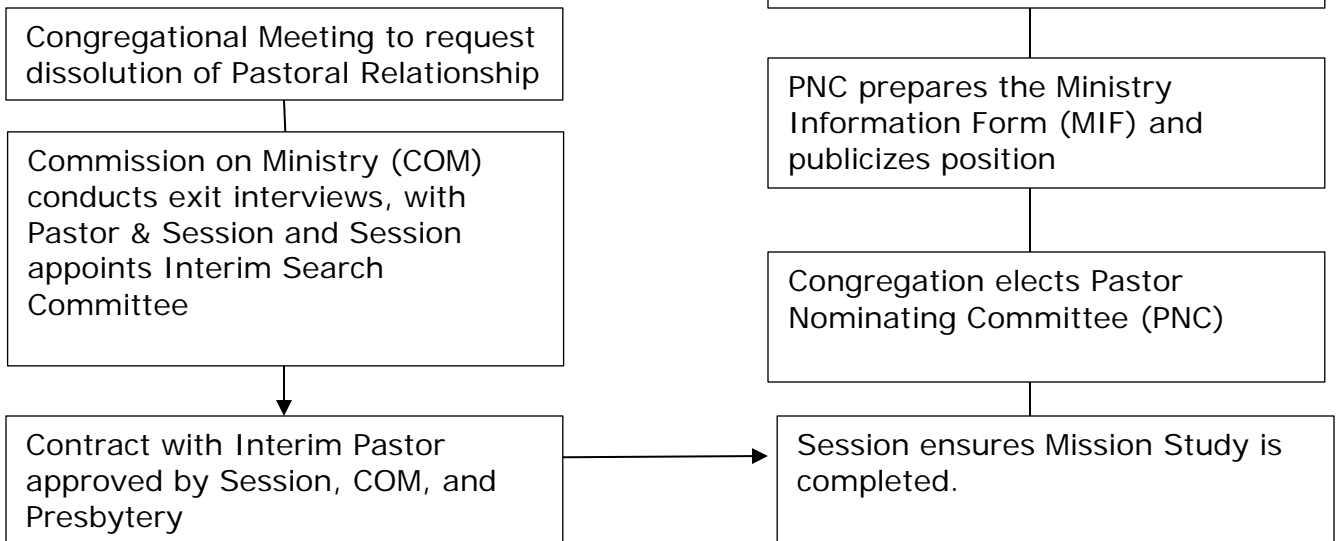
May 20 & 27 – continuing the discussion and the film Human Flow

Update on Pastor Search Process

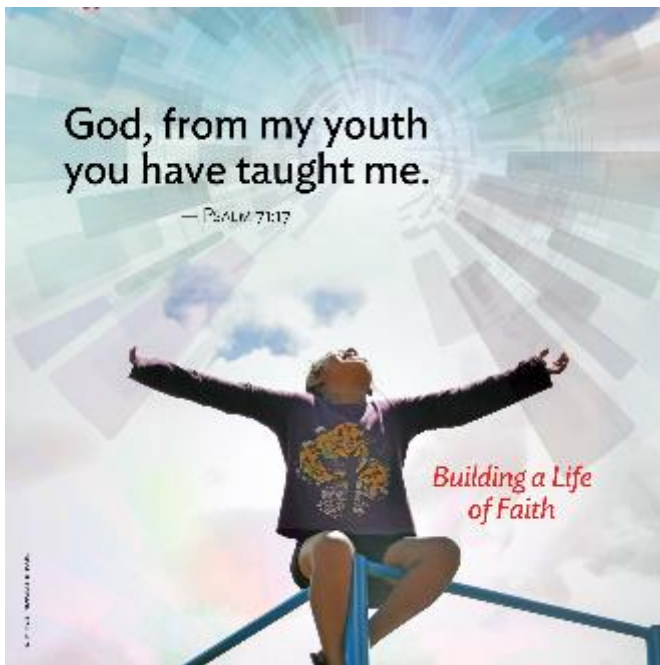
The Session is proceeding with the search process outlined by the Baltimore Presbytery as it seeks to identify a worthy successor to Reverend Christa Fuller Burns. In its meeting with the Committee on Ministry (COM), the Session reviewed the various steps in the process, which are outlined in the accompanying chart. While the process may look daunting, the Session is committed to move forward with all deliberate speed and is optimistic that Faith Church is in a strong position to recruit a talented pastor who will be an excellent match for our congregation. We see the opportunity presented at Faith, with its especially committed, talented, diverse, and welcoming community, as a particularly attractive one. And we are certain that there are excellent candidates who will share that assessment.

In the weeks ahead you will be hearing more about the process, including the status of the appointment of an interim pastor to assist the church with the search and with the transition process. The first step of the transition is to approve the dissolution of Christa's call, which we plan to include on the agenda for the regularly scheduled congregational meeting following worship on May 20.

Search Process for Pastor



Pentecost Offering May 20



When you give to the Pentecost Offering, you are helping to provide opportunities for young people to grow and share their faith in Christ. 40% stays with our congregation to develop and support programs for young people.

Faith Is in on the Ban, the Styrofoam Ban.

By Bill Curtis



Let's celebrate good news--Mr. Trash Wheel is going to starve.

In its February meeting, the Session of Faith Presbyterian Church pledged to no longer use Styrofoam, technically known as Expanded Polystyrene. The City Council soon after passed a law that will ban the use of Styrofoam in restaurants citywide. Small steps like this will help us meet the goal of a swimmable harbor.

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.

WORSHIP & THE ARTS

Judy Sperling, *chair*

Following our festive Palm Sunday Celebration and in anticipation of a joyous Easter Morning, we gathered in the sanctuary on Holy Thursday to quietly remember the events of Jesus' last hours with his disciples and to share the sacrament of Holy Communion. The service ended with the choir singing *In His Dying Breath*, prayer, Mike Shirey singing *Go In Peace*.and silent departure.



Thanks to a break in the cold temperatures, Easter morning dawned bright and warmer. Easter Flowers transformed the Chancel into a fragrant spring garden. Members, extended families and friends filled the sanctuary. The Choir was joined by the Morgan Brass and Janet St Pierre on Timpani that filled every space with joyous sound.



During the time when the children were to open the jeweled box to reveal the Alleluia that was hidden away in a box during Lent, Christa played an "April Fools" trick on the

children which caused much laughter but did not deter the arrival of the ALLELUIA BANNER! Following the service, children flooded the courtyard in quest of Easter Eggs hidden by Karen Burd and her helpers.



The Worship and Arts Committee sends many thanks to everyone who helped make the season of Lent and Easter a meaningful experience for the Family of Faith.



Earth Sunday



On Earth Sunday the children of the church gathered on the Chancel steps in front of an indoor version of a serene spring garden, waterfall and lake to talk about how Faith Church cares for our outdoor landscape by picking up litter each Thursday as part of the Thursday Work Crew's list of jobs.



They were surprised to see a bulging bag of real trash and to learn that it was the actual trash picked up on the recent Thursday. . . . maybe even more surprised to learn that it represents what is collected every week! A question game revealed that the children were unhappy about the litter on our property but were well versed about the widespread problems litter create and anxious to be part of the solution.

Q&A Christa and the kids talked about:

Where does the trash come from - Some of it is dropped out of cars and some of it blows from the road way, but most of it is intentionally dropped on our lawns or in our parking lots by inconsiderate people who don't make an effort to take their trash to a trash can. These are not our Faith people.

How long does it take to pick up the trash – About one and one half hours each week. It is a weekly chore of the Thursday Crew.

What kinds of litter is most common around Faith Church – Fast Food refuse, plastic bottles, plastic bags, beer and liquor bottles, drug paraphernalia, cigarette filters. Sometimes even used pampers.

What's is the most disgusting thing you have had to pick up – The answer is R rated and not appropriate for church.

Are cigarette filters litter – Most definitely! And they are a particularly harmful form of litter. The filters on cigarettes – four-fifths of all cigarettes have them – are made of cellulose acetate, a form of plastic that is very slow to degrade. A typical cigarette butt can take anywhere from 18 months to 10 years to decompose.

What would happen if the trash wasn't picked up each week – It would attract more litter! And probably rodents. Plus, it would be unpleasant for people coming to church. But the real problem is that with heavy rains, much of the trash would wash down into the city sewers and find its way to the harbor and to the Chesapeake Bay where it would contribute to pollution and threaten marine life.

DEACONS

GEDCO's Harford House was made possible by the Low Income Housing Tax Credit program and opened its' doors in 1994. Harford House serves men who were homeless by providing permanent housing with supportive services. The house is a series of three adjoined row houses with private bedrooms and a shared common kitchen, restroom, and living space on each floor. In addition, it offers a computer lab, workout room, and communal cooking/eating area.

Harford House staff includes an Advocacy Counselor who assists the residents in designing an individualized program based on their history, needs and goals. They collaborate with many other organizations in the city to bring educational programs to the house. These include health screenings, job skills, financial responsibility, literacy and computer tutoring, and cooking classes. The goal for the men is to eventually become self-sustaining and acquire housing and employment.

Many of the men are also in recovery from using drugs and/or alcohol. The sober living community allows them the chance to practice living a life in recovery. Harford House hosts its own 12-step meetings and educational programs in this area as well.

Faith Church has provided support to Harford House for many years. Thanks to the congregations generous support, we have been able to be a part of sustaining their programs. Faith also plans several annual events including our big Thanksgiving dinner, Lasagna Bingo Night, and a Summer Game night. These offer an important element of fellowship with the residents and Faith members, not to mention the amazing food!

Many thanks to you all for your support of Harford House.

Faith Family's Generosity

News from the Cares Pantry!

Since the beginning of April, Faith Church has donated the equivalent of 15 bags of fresh produce and seven bags of non-perishable food to the CARES Food Pantry. The need for food is always great, what is put on the selves today, will be gone tomorrow! Thank you so very much for your generosity and concern.

DACA

Faith has collected \$1495 from members to donate to the Immigrant Outreach Service Center (IOSC) to help pay for DACA renewals.

OGHS

This year, Faith Church gave \$1071.12 to support One Great Hour of Sharing. OGHS enables the church to share God's love with our neighbors-in-need around the world by providing relief to those affected by natural disasters, by providing food to the hungry, and helping to empower the poor and oppressed.

Thank you!



FAITH FAMILY LIFE

Happy May Birthday!

- 2nd Maceo Williams
Joseph Colaianni
- 3rd Charles Richardson
- 10th Sharon Will
- 11th Judy Sperling
Janet Thomson
- 14th Cal Burns
- 15th Karen Burd
Ann Scheck
- 16th Andy Fuller
- 18th Ellen Bernard
Mary Hodgson
- 21st Ileana Martinez-Castillo
Kelsey Shirey
- 24th Sarah Ward
- 29th James St. Pierre
Natalie Wallace
- 31st Andre Slacum

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

Please Keep in Your Prayers

- Betty Bunce
- 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!

Property Care Day



"Glory, glory Hallelujah, His truth goes 'mulching' on." Please join us for a Faith Property Care Day Saturday, May 5 from 9:00am to 12:00pm. Thanks to our Fun, "Faith"ful, dedicated Thursday volunteer crew much property work gets done week to week. Yes - we will be mulching on.

Our Cuban Churches



Christa, Lauren Hill and Anna Burns are going to Cuba in June. Our churches tell us that they need: vitamins, antacids, omega 3, anti-inflammatory meds and craft materials for Sunday school.

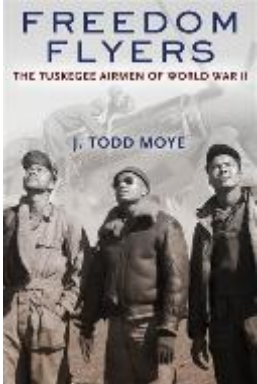
If you are able to contribute to this effort, please bring items to church marked Cuba. Thank you!

Book Club *May at 7:00 p.m.*

At the home of Pat & Jack Nesbitt. Everyone is welcome. For more information speak to Pat or Paula Burger.

The Freedom Flyers,

The Tuskegee Airmen of World War II
by Jay Todd Moyer



In this inspiring account of the Tuskegee Airmen - the country's first African American military pilots - historian J. Todd Moyer captures the challenges and triumphs of these brave aviators in their own words, drawing on more than 800 interviews recorded for the National Park Service's Tuskegee Airmen Oral History Project.

Freedom Flyers brings to life the legacy of a determined, visionary cadre of African American airmen who proved their capabilities and patriotism beyond question, transformed the armed forces - formerly the nation's most racially polarized institution - and jump-started the modern struggle for racial equality.

"A scholarly but accessible treatment of a significant forerunner of the civil-rights movement." —Kirkus Reviews

"Excellent history of the first African-American military pilots...Moyer's lively prose and the intimate details of the personal narratives yield an accessible scholarly history." —Publishers Weekly

New Tenant!

We welcome Uncuffed Ministries to Faith. They will occupy part of "Old Fellowship Hall."



About unCUFFED

unCUFFED ministries is a 501 (3) (c) with a passion to walk alongside young men and women incarcerated in adult detention centers. We are in the midst of an expansion of services and increased public advocacy with a focus on relational ministry. We believe that change comes through long term, committed relationships. We want to build relationships so we can earn the right to share Truth. unCUFFED has 6 Board members, 4 part time staff and more than 35 volunteers serving in multiple Detention Center and Juvenile Justice Centers in Maryland.

See a video story at this
<https://vimeo.com/236610404>.

You can see our leaders biographies at
uncuffedministries.org/our-team



This is the 5th year for Faith Communities of Baltimore – with Pride (FCBWP) and for Faith Church to participate in the Gay Pride Parade! And each year the numbers have grown. Last year the parade organizers awarded FCBWP the prize for the largest number of walker – estimated to be 300!

Important Dates:

June 16, 1:00 p.m. start - Pride Parade
Parade begins at 33rd & Charles – ends at 23rd & Charles. While the parade route is longer, it is also all downhill! It seems people that the previous route too short. Let us know if you will walk!

June 17, 11:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. – Pride Sunday Celebration at Druid Hill Park. Setup is before 11:00 and teardown/cleanup is after 5:00. We will be recruiting people to work 2 hour shifts or however much time you have available.

T-shirts are still \$5, let us know if you need a new one, Ryan Sattler hopes to place the order by May 15. If you have a shirt, you don't need a new one and if you don't expect to wear it again, you might offer it to someone who will be participating (just a suggestion.)

Interfaith Worship Services

Time to still be determined

June 7 – St. Ignatius on the corner of Calvert & Madison

June 12 – Temple Oheb Shalom, 7310 Park Heights Ave, Pikesville, 21208

These are beautiful service that inspire and help us set the mood for the Pride Weekend.

More information will be forthcoming, or call Doris Cowan 410-444-4731.

Block Party!

May 30



Faith's annual Block Party for neighborhood children and their parents is on Wednesday, May 30, from 5:30-7:30 pm. We need lots of volunteers to help. Set up is at 4:00 p.m. Below is a list of games and activities, food preparation and service. Please let us know how you'd like to be involved to help make this community outreach tradition a success. The signup sheet will be in church on Sundays.



- Setup and Tear Down, Grounds Keepers
- Registration
- Food Preparation and Serve, Snowballs
- Basketball Shoot, Races & Games
- Moon Bounce
- Hula Hoops, Bubbles
- Nail Painting, Boys Hair Cuts



Faith Church's 5th Annual BLOCK PARTY



MUSIC FOOD MOON BOUNCE
May 30, 5:30-7:30



YOGA AT FAITH

All Ages and Experience

Leanora Y. Eubanks, E-RYT (Experienced-Registered Yoga Teacher) Trained in Therapeutic, Restorative, Hatha and Vinyasa styles of yoga.



When: Wednesdays in May at 2:00-3:15 (May 2, 9, 16, 23)

Where: The Chapel on the second floor of Faith

Cost: \$40/4 sessions or \$12.50 drop in (payable by cash or check to Leanora Eubanks)

Dress comfortably and bring a yoga mat and small pillow /blanket

More Info-Audrey Trapp
410-466-2133 or
audreytrapp@comcast.net

Leanora Eubanks will lead a yoga class for all ages and experience, tailored to the needs of the participants. Come and try it out - you will enjoy the movement, stretching, relaxation, breathing and serenity of the Chapel.



Please join Rails-to-Trails and Friends of Herring Run Parks for an evening

HISTORY TALK

BIRD WALK BEER



BEER

Friday, May 11, 2018

5PM

Oliver Brewing, 4216 Shannon Drive, Baltimore, MD 21213

Meet at Oliver Brewing for happy hour, followed by a 6PM bird walk and history talk along a beautiful trail with a sweeping view, and perhaps more happy hour!



May

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
		1 7:00PM – WB Deacons	2 11:00AM – WB Bible Study 2:00PM – CH Yoga	3 6:30PM-WB Bells 7:30PM-CR Choir	4	5 9:00AM – Property Care Day
6 9:15AM – WB Adult Forum 10:45AM – ST Worship	7	8	9 11:00AM – WB Bible Study 2:00PM – CH Yoga	10 6:30PM-WB Bells 7:30PM-CR Choir	11	12
13 Youth Sunday 9:15AM – WB Adult Forum 10:45AM – ST Worship I	14	15 7:00pm – WM Men's Group	16 11:00AM – WB Bible Study 2:00PM – CH Yoga	17 6:30PM-WB Bells 7:30PM-CR Choir	18	19
20 Pentecost 9:15AM – WB Adult Forum 10:45AM – ST Worship	21 7:00PM – WB Session	22	23 11:00AM – WB Bible Study 2:00PM – CH Yoga	24 6:30PM-WB Bells 7:30PM-CR Choir	25	26
27 9:15AM – WB Adult Forum 10:45AM – ST Worship	28 7:00PM – OC Book Club	29	30 11:00AM – WB Bible Study 2:00PM – CH Yoga 5:30PM – Block Party	31 6:30PM-WB Bells 7:30PM-CR Choir		
				<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin: 0 auto; width: 80%;"> <p>Locations</p> <p>ST – Sanctuary WB – Woodbourne Room WM – Woodmont Room FH – Fellowship Hall OC – Off Campus</p> </div>		