



NEWSLETTER

Boyd's Presbyterian Church

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2/3

From Pastor Carrie

Greetings!

We are in the middle of the Lenten Season where the 40 days are passing by quickly. Even as the days go by faster than I would like, I hope you are finding some deep spiritual insights as you pray, study and apply the fruitful practices that we have been studying together.

There are 3 main reasons we are studying together this Lent:

1. We need a common language to talk about what thriving congregations know and how they act to carry out the mission of Christ. These 5 practices of fruitful congregations are the basics in showing the love and saving grace of Christ our Lord. How might BPC enhance what they are doing to practice:
 - Radical Hospitality
 - Passionate Worship
 - Intentional Faith Development
 - Risk-Taking Mission
 - Extravagant Generosity
2. We want to have groups of people brainstorming some short and long-term ideas we can use in strengthening our welcome and invite of the surrounding community, and to grow our own faith in the process.
3. We want to have fun together! Having fun together, while learning, can renew spiritual energies!

Also, below is the Lent/Easter schedule. You will notice that during Holy Week, there will be a combined Maundy Thursday/Good Friday Tenebrae service on Thursday March 29th, starting at 6:30pm with a simple meal in P-W Hall and then 7:00pm will begin the worship service in the Sanctuary. We will celebrate communion and remember Jesus' last meal with his disciples and then experience Jesus' encounters to the cross. Each step of that way will be signified by the extinguishing of a lighted candle, thus highlighting the "tenebrae" (darkening) part. The Worship Ministry Team had a good discussion about Maundy Thursday and Good Friday worship services and determined the best course of action this year would be to combine the services. One of the issues we encountered last year, as well as this year, is the leadership of the two churches we have partnered with in the past now want to do their own services, so we are experimenting this year with a combined service on Thursday March 29th. It will be a moving and meaningful service and we hope everyone will come for the whole story of Jesus' death before we experience the resurrection on Easter Sunday.

Lent/Easter Worship

- 2/14 Ash Wednesday Service in Kerr Hall
- 2/18 1st Sunday in Lent - Radical Hospitality
- 2/25 2nd Sunday In Lent - Passionate Worship
- 3/4 3rd Sunday in Lent - Intentional Faith Development
- 3/11 4th Sunday In Lent - Risk-Taking Mission and Service
- 3/18 5th Sunday In Lent - Extravagant Generosity
- 3/25 Palm Sunday Celebration
- 3/29 Maundy Thursday/Good Friday Tenebrae Combined Service
- 4/1 Easter Sunday Celebration, 9:30am contemporary in Kerr Hall and 11am traditional in sanctuary
Communion will be served at both services

May the rest of the Lenten season be fruitful for you!

Blessings!

Carrie

Upcoming & Recurring Events



Set your clocks **AHEAD** one hour at bedtime on **Saturday, March 10th**. This is also a good time to check or change the batteries in your smoke and CO₂ detectors.



Bring your gloves, rakes, and shovels and join us for the annual **Spring Cleanup** of the church grounds and cemetery on Saturday, March 17th. We will pick up trash, remove old decorations from the grave sites and weed and mulch all of the trees and plant beds. If you can help with this project, please meet in P-W Hall at 8:30am for coffee, donuts and work assignments. Contact Dick Ernst at 301-540-2143 for more information. Rain date is March 24th.



Easter flower orders (in memory of loved ones) are due March 25th. Flower flyers and order envelopes are available in the sanctuary, P-W Hall, and Kerr Hall.



The **Choir** meets every Wednesday at 2pm at Jane Dassen's house. Contact Jane at 301-948-9816 if you're interested in joining.



The **Praise Team** meets every Wednesday at 6pm in Kerr Hall. Contact Carrie at 301-461-1006 if you're interested, or you can just come join us.



Lunch Bunch meets the second Tuesday of each month at various restaurants. The next gathering is March 13th at noon at **Outback Steakhouse** in Germantown. For reservations, contact **Heather Haley** at **301-428-3081** by Sunday, **March 11th**.



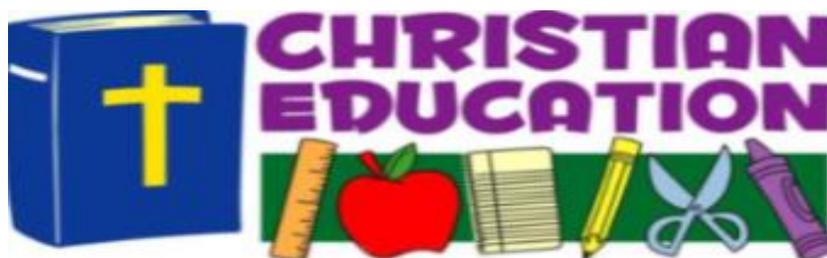
The **M&Ms** (Mission and Merriment group) meet the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month in P-W Hall, from 11am – 1pm. At each meeting, we start with a devotion, have a brief business meeting and then make two fleece blankets. Each month, two blankets are made for baby cribs, and two are for youth-sized beds. These blankets are given to a pregnancy center and the Children’s Advocacy Center, both in Frederick.

Some members of M&Ms carry out knitting and crocheting projects at their homes, making prayer shawls and hats for those who lose their hair due to chemotherapy. The prayer shawls are given to anyone struggling with illness or loss. The hats are distributed to oncology units and cancer treatment centers and anyone who wants one for a friend or relative.

Contact Marj Turbyfill at 301-972-0265 if you are interested in receiving any of the items we provide and for more information.



Soul Sisters usually meet the last Thursday of each month, but for March, we are moving to the 4th Thursday because of Holy Week activities. The next gathering is March 22nd, at **Bennigan’s** in Clarksburg. Come join us anytime between 6:30-9pm for fun, fellowship, and food with friends.



Our youth meet for **Ablaze** on Sunday evenings from 5 – 6:30pm for a meal, a lesson and preparation for youth involvement in the 9:30am Sunday services.

March meeting dates: 3/4 and 3/18.



On February 21st, the **Adult Study Group** began a 5-week Lenten study titled *He Chose the Nails* by Max Lucado. Contact Dick Ernst at 301-540-2143 for more information and material.



Bad Weather Action Plan

In the event of heavy weather this season, please call the church office @ 301-540-2544 to listen to any worship schedule changes or check our Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/BoydPresbyterianChurch>.

We will update any service change before 8am on Sunday morning.



From the Session

Hello from Session and welcome to March! Spring is on the way and Easter will be here before we know it. You will see other information in this newsletter with more specifics, but here are some highlights for your involvement in Lent.

The Trustees ask for your help on Saturday, March 17th for our annual spring cleanup around the grounds and in the cemetery. We will have mulch to spread, gardens to clean up and grounds to ready for Easter Sunday. Session encourages everyone to come out and help. Many hands make light work.

Easter Sunrise Service will once again be held on Sugarloaf Mountain, principally sponsored by our Church, but held in collaboration with several other area churches. Look for more information later in March. Sunrise will be at 6:54am this year.

Session and Pastor Carrie continue to work on the five steps of interim ministry. We look forward to engaging everyone in reviewing the five steps and creating renewed energy and participation in Church events. The five steps include:

1. **Coming to Terms With Your History** – Session continues to discuss balancing our history with our emerging future. The key ingredient that everyone agrees on is that we need families with young children.
2. **Discovering A New Identity** – Session has retained the services of Tina Smith to help us interview our board members and a few congregants for discovering what our new identity might be and uncover current thoughts about the Church and its direction.
3. **Strengthening Patterns of Lay Leadership** – Emerging plans for Spring include the potential for an all-Church retreat to review how we are currently doing things and to brainstorm how we can strengthen our lay leadership positioning.
4. **Strengthening Denominational Ties** – Presbytery continues to offer Session its support, wisdom and guidance on many different levels. We will be applying for a few grants in the coming months to help fund things like last summer's movie night project. Our goal is to bring local community members into the events with the hope that they will return on Sundays.
5. **Preparing for New Leadership** – As we weave this new future for our Church, your prayers and participation are vitally important. If you are not asked to participate, please volunteer to do something. Just call the Church Office or speak to a member of Session.

Finally, the current sermon series will continue into March. The Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations has been the focus. These practices include Radical Hospitality, Passionate Worship, Intentional Faith Development, Risk-Taking Mission and Extravagant Generosity.

Please join with Session on each of these initiatives.

Next meeting: Monday, 3/5 at 7pm in P-W Hall.

From the Deacons

The BPC Deacons meet on February 12th. The Deacons continued discussing the coordination of duties with the Worship, Fellowship and Mission Teams and the best way to provide congregational care to our congregation. Plans are underway for Easter baskets and flowers for some of our congregational members and members of our Boyds community. If you would like to suggest names, help participate or deliver, please contact one of the deacons.

Next meeting: Monday, 3/12 at 7pm in P-W Hall.

From the Trustees

The Board of Trustees and Session member Doug Fiedler met on Tuesday, January 30th. Dick Ernst was elected to serve as Chair and Margaret Leaman as Secretary for calendar year 2018. Discussed forming a sign committee, which Doug Smith agreed to chair. The UV Filter System at the CE Building was replaced on December 18th—cost \$825. Two exterior lights in the parking lot at the Christian Education Building have been replaced. Exterior stair railings were installed at P-W Hall – cost \$1,340. It was noted that we have spent \$650 to date for snow and ice removal. In addition to mowing the cemetery, the Harners have agreed to take on the mowing of the field that Earl Dillehay had been mowing.

The Board of Trustees met on Tuesday, February 27th. The third light in the parking lot has been repaired – cost \$216. Our Spring Cleanup is scheduled for Saturday, March 17th starting at 8:30 a.m. with a bad weather date of March 24th. The contract for the mowing of all church grounds has been finalized. Burned out light bulbs have been replaced, filters changed, and numerous other tasks are completed on an on-going, as needed basis.

The Trustees would like to put together a committee to look at possible designs for replacing the deteriorating wooden signs in front of all three building. Doug Smith has agreed to chair the committee. We like to get several members of the congregation to help us out with this project. If you would be interested in joining the committee, please contact either Doug Smith or Dick Ernst.

Next meeting: Tuesday, 3/20 at 7pm in P-W Hall.



From the Worship Team: Worship is our Gift to God

“I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship” Romans 12: 1

How do we do that? One way is to commit to be fully present at worship, with your whole self, your mind, your heart, your soul—not just your body. Our history of worshipping God began not with a praise band or live dramas, media, or technology, but with an offering, a sacrifice to our creator, a gift to our God.

From Lenten Learnings... Five Practices of Fruitful Youth Ministry (Passionate Worship)

We’ve all given gifts to relatives, friends, co-workers, and associates. When giving gifts we usually think about what the person would enjoy. Sometimes it’s hard because we are looking for the “perfect gift.” That’s not always possible. Most of the time we give gifts not because of what WE would get out of it, but instead, it is for the enjoyment of the person receiving the gift.

Worship is our gift to God, That's an interesting idea. Our gift to God, whether it be traditional, contemporary, or blended, needs to be real. When viewed as a gift, worship becomes more than traditional hymns or PowerPoint presentations. It becomes more than the choir singing or a youth reading scripture. It's the offering of ourselves to God in a spiritual way. As the Five Practices of Fruitful Youth Ministry says, worship is to fully commit to that gift, with your whole self.

The Worship Team at each of its meetings reviews our gift to God. We ask questions about how the 9:30 and 11:00 services are doing. We look for any changes or new ideas (less paper at 9:30am, movement of announcements/The Peace to the beginning of 11:00). And we also look at changes through the lens of scripture (what does scripture say about communion) or church history (what would be the meaning of a combined Maundy Thursday/Good Friday service on Maundy Thursday).

And so what gift do you bring to worship each Sunday. It doesn't have to be singing, reading, electronics, an offering, or deaconing. Instead, bring your whole self, your mind, your heart and your soul and present your body as holy and acceptable to God. That's all God asks as God receives your gift, a gift of love for God.

The Worship Team usually meets once a month. Members of the team are: Glenn Karta, Nancy Knott, Dee Smith, Mark Stunder (chair) and Marj Turbyfill.

Next meeting: Thursday 3/8 at 7pm in P-W Hall. Feel free to join us!



One Great Hour of Sharing is an offering that makes the love of Christ real for individuals and communities around the world who suffer the effects of disaster, conflict, or severe economic hardship. Today, projects are underway in more than 100 countries, including the United States and Canada. The OGH offering will be gathered on Palm Sunday, March 25th. Please write your name on the fish box and tape it shut.



BETTERtogether

Appreciation and Gratitude to:

- Everyone who hosted a January or February fellowship
 - Anne Davies
 - Brenda Reid Jones
 - The Christie family
 - Maria Romero & Catherine Reese
 - Our CE Team
 - Our Session Members
- Everyone who contributed to the Potlucks
- Margaret Leaman and Mary Beitzel for cleaning the church



Fellowship Hosting is needed during the first three or four weeks of each month. The last Sunday of each month is designated as "Potluck." The sign-up sheet is in P-W Hall. Join with a friend or other family or two to host Fellowship between the services. **March 11th is available!**



The **2018 Sanctuary Cleaning** schedule is on the bulletin board in the church vestibule. Please sign-up to clean for one month.



2018 Offering Envelopes are in the church vestibule. If you weren't assigned a box, please write your name on the form and take the corresponding box of envelopes, or contact the office.



The **2018 Per Capita** for each church member is **\$39.91**. Per capita is what BPC pays to *The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)*, to cover the denomination's general administrative expenses. You may use the first blue envelope in your offering box designated for "per capita apportionment." Thank you to those that have paid their per capita for 2018. So far, we have received \$2,237.47 in per-capita contributions.



Pray for grieving:

Family and friends of those who died during January and February:

- Earl Dillehay, who died 1/10
- Darby Price, who died 1/13
- Bill Stark, who died 1/14
- Zachary Kresslein, who died 1/16
- Bill Fiedler, Doug Fiedler's father, who died 1/17
- Kathy Padgett, who died 1/30
- Flora Gilliam, who died 2/8
- Robert Burdette, Jr. who died 2/19
- Audrey Spring, who died 2/21
- Barbara Stidham family, whose aunt passed away 2/22

Pray for healing:

Gwen Alred; Cindy Ashley; Carlos Aulestia; Karla Barron; Stephanie Bennett; Wynona Beuz; Susan Blackman; Nell Brewer; Michael Broschart; Cornelia Burr; Charles Shepherd Burton; Mark Cantwell; Dave Cullen; Nancy Daughtry; Anne Davies; Dean; Averi Donat; Billy Dorsey; Blair Gibson; Perri Green; Gene Hoilman; Ruth Hoyt; Joe Katran; Eddie Kiser; Renie Kiser; Kaisy Knott; Ronnie Lacourse; Sandy Llewellyn; Jack Louth; Christine O'Connell; Jean Phillips; Rex Reed; Carolyn & John Repass; Jim Rhea; Justin Rosner; Mark Sutch; Winfill family; Gene Younkin; those who have recently lost loved ones; active members of armed services and their families; members of our church; those affected by weather events, wildfires and tragedies. Pray for those recovering from their war wounds, for victims of violence and war throughout the world.

Mission & Merriment have prayer shawls to give to anyone, church member or friend. To request a prayer shawl, please contact Marj Turbyfill at 301-972-0265.

LENT



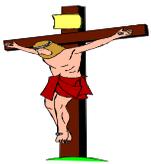
- March 4 – Communion Sunday
 - March 10 – Lenten Home Group , Turn clocks ahead one hour @ bedtime
 - March 17 – Spring Cleanup, Lenten Home Group, St Patrick' Day
 - March 20 – Spring Begins
 - March 23 – Newsletter Deadline
 - March 25 – Palm Sunday, Easter Flower orders due
 - March 29 – Maundy Thursday
 - March 30 – Good Friday
 - March 31 – Bench Building
 - April 1 – Easter Sunday
-



Maundy Thursday, March 29

6:30pm Light supper in P-W Hall

7:00pm **Combined Maundy Thursday / Good Friday Tenebrae service**
in the sanctuary, communion served



Good Friday, March 30

Combined Maundy Thursday / Good Friday Tenebrae service on **Thursday**



Bench Building, March 31

Meet at the foot of the mountain at the barn. Bring hammers, gloves, trucks; nails provided. Come help build benches for the sunrise service! Start time tbd.



Easter Sunday, April 1

Time tbd Sunrise Service, East View of Sugarloaf Mountain

9:30am Contemporary service in Kerr Hall

11:00am Traditional Service in the sanctuary