

NEWSLETTER

Boyd's Presbyterian Church

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VOL. XXVIII

October 2018

10

From Pastor Carrie

Greetings!

October brings autumnal splashes of color and cool crisp breezes- a reminder, if we but slow down and drink in the splendor of the moments, that God is alive in the world and can still move us to awe and wonder. There is much to be said about being able, being spiritually mature enough, to recognize when the Spirit is moving in our lives and in the lives of others. Yes, sometimes God comes to us in mighty ways all at once to wake us up, but mostly, following in the ways of Jesus is an everyday discipline that **asks us to open our eyes and hearts and to notice where God is in the moment.** So, as we move through this month and into a season of thanksgiving, may we notice the Spirit's movement in our lives and in our collective life here at BPC!

There are a number of **special events** in the next couple of months that will stir our souls and enliven our lives together. There are several **Lock-Ins/Retreats for our youth** that bring a mixture of deep conversations about where faith intersects their lives and where there are opportunities for just having fun together! We are stepping up the amount of these times when youth can be together in significant ways because we know that the more time they have together, the stronger the group becomes. In conjunction with these events, the Confirmation process has begun. Thanks go to all the adults who have said "YES!" to being a **Mentor** to one of our 6 **Confirmands**. Again, we know from research and experience that Youth need at least 1 (but 5 would be optimum) caring adult other than a parent in their lives to help make their faith "sticky." Please join me as we pray for these youth and bring to them a picture of God's love and grace, through our words and deeds, that will deeply encourage, inspire, and impact this next generation!

A **Communion Workshop** will be held for all kids preschool – fifth grade and their families (and anyone else who would like to come and join in the fun!) on **Saturday October 6th from 10:00AM - 11:00AM in Kerr Hall**. There will be an opening gathering, bread making, and stations that everyone will rotate through to learn more about the sacrament of the Lord's Supper.

And speaking of Communion, **World Communion Sunday is coming up on October 7th**. Both the 9:30AM and 11:00AM worship services will celebrate this special event!

Our **Stewardship Season** is approaching and incorporates the theme of "**Investing in the Future!**" You will be receiving a letter shortly detailing how we might go "All In" in bringing the mission and vision of BPC to life as we respond to where God is calling. **We will have one service of worship at 10:00AM on November 11th in the Sanctuary** to celebrate and then, after worship, move to Kerr Hall to gather for the annual Stewardship Dinner!



And finally, if you have family or friends who have died in the past year (Nov. 2017-Oct. 2018) and would like to honor their memory, please e-mail the church office with his or her name, how they are related to you, and **3-5 pictures** of them. On Nov. 4th, **All Saints Sunday, we will have one service of worship at 10:00AM in Kerr Hall** and, there, will have a special recognition honoring those who have died as well as a slideshow honoring their memory. If you do not have pictures in digital form, you may also bring in the pictures to the church office and we will scan them in for you and give them back.

May we continue to be God's hands and feet in this hurting world and attuned to the Spirit's calling.

Blessings!

Carrie

Upcoming & Recurring Events



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 7PM in Kerr Hall. Contact Jasper at 706-405-5262 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 October 9th at noon at **Monocacy Crossing** in Frederick. For reservations, contact **Jane Dassen** at 301-948-9816 by Sunday, October 7th.



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 fleece blankets for local charities. Some members of M&Ms also knit and crochet prayer shawls and hats at their homes.

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



Soul Sisters meet the last Thursday of each month. The next gathering is October 25th at **Da Marco The Italian Place** in Germantown. Come join us anytime between 6:30-9PM for fun, fellowship, and food with friends.



Christian Education Ministry Team

The CE Ministry Team is ready for a Fantastic Fall! On September 4th we discussed our plans for the fall – Dick Ernst, Barb and Mark Stunder, Jasper Davis, Pastor Carrie, and Chair Dee Smith.

Adult Bible Study – Will began a new study on September 12th *The Gospel of Light and Life*, by Adam Hamilton, on the Gospel of John.

Pre-school and Elementary school classes – The teachers were assigned the task of reviewing the hardcopy pre-school and elementary school-age curriculum and the electronic one-room school, age 3-12, materials that were purchased. The intent being to return unneeded hardcopy curriculum to save money and/or in winter when it's time to purchase the next term's material, to just get the one-room curriculum if the two separate age group materials are not needed. With the 'electronic' curriculum, the materials are accessed on a computer, but then must be printed.

Youth class and confirmation – Each confirmand will have an adult mentor. A copy of the letter of instruction each mentor will receive was distributed so the CE team better understands what mentors will be doing. Mentorship provides the youth an opportunity to have one-on-one time with a caring adult in BPC other than their parents. The youth schedule for the fall was reviewed. Oct. 5th Ablaze will be headlined with Presbyterianism 101 and "What Does it Mean to be a Disciple?" The week of Oct. 7th the mentors will meet with the confirmands (in a public place such as a restaurant/coffee shop or in P-W Hall when others are around) to discuss "What Does it Mean to Show Christ's Love?" Oct. 14th is the Brambleton and Corn Maize trip. Mentors will meet with confirmands the week of Oct. 21st to discuss "What is Your Gift?" and the week of Oct. 28th to serve together somewhere. Confirmation is planned for December 2nd. The Worship Ministry Team will discuss the Dec. 2nd service logistics.

Next meeting: Tuesday, 10/2 at 7PM in P-W Hall. Beginning in December, CE will meet the 1st Thursday.



Adult Bible Fellowship meets at 9:30AM on most Sundays in the sanctuary for devotionals and discussions based on scripture. They do not meet if there is only one worship service.



The **Adult Study Group** meets every Wednesday at 7PM in P-W Hall. Contact Dick Ernst at 301-540-2143 for more information.



From the Session

Session Update: Mission Statement

If you have been reading the newsletter or coming to the Town Hall Meetings, you are already aware that Session is in the process of finalizing a new Mission Statement. Session is pleased to announce the final, approved version, which will be used as a decision tool for everything the Ministry Teams and Boards do. Everything that we decide must first clear the filter of the Mission Statement.

The Mission Statement is:

**Connecting all to God's love and grace.
Engage. Nurture. Serve.**

We look forward to living into the Mission Statement and spreading the word of God throughout our membership, friends and the local community.

Coming Attractions 1: Congregational Meeting Sunday, November 4

Session has approved and scheduled a congregational meeting for Sunday, November 4th following a single 10AM worship service in Kerr Hall. The purpose of the meeting is to vote on the Nominating Committee's proposed slate of officers who will fill positions effective with the February board meetings.

The Nominating Committee will be meeting in the coming weeks to create the ballot of candidates. If you would like to nominate yourself or someone else (getting his/her permission first), please contact the Church Office or a member of Session.

Coming Attractions 2: Town Hall Meeting follows Congregational Meeting

Session requests the pleasure of your participation in a Town Hall Meeting on Sunday, November 4th following the Congregational Meeting. We will be discussing the current state of our interim period and building for the future.

This gets a little bit in the weeds, but it is important that everyone knows the backdrop of what Session is considering and how PC(USA) and Presbytery help to guide our decision-making. **Session is requesting your input into changing Pastor Carrie Yearick from an interim pastor to a stated supply pastor.** Allow us to briefly get into the weeds.

- PC(USA) has two categories of pastors – permanent and temporary. A permanent pastor is one who is called by the congregation via a vote and installed under an enduring call. This call is considered each year at the annual meeting and revised as appropriate. The call can only be dissolved by action of the Presbytery. A temporary pastor is contracted by Session (without a congregational vote) for a specified period of time with an annual review of the contract terms. Temporary pastors include Interim, Stated Supply, and a few other names. This contract is considered each year and revised as appropriate. Should the parties to the contract not seek renewal, the Presbytery is asked to approve the cessation of the contract.
- Many PC(USA) churches are now moving to “stated supply” pastors. A stated supply pastor is hired by Session for a one-year period with a specific contract. Each year, the contract is refined and adjusted as Session sets the course for the next year. The contract can be renewed indefinitely.

- On the other hand, Interim pastors are specifically tasked to lead the congregation through a prescribed five-step interim process, which BPC has been going through. The guidelines prescribe the interim period should preferably not last more than 24 months. BPC is now in its fourth year of foundational interim work. We are no longer in an interim period but instead, we are in a period of a longer-term transition and renewal.
- Session invited Lyman Smith, Presbytery's Co-Chair, Congregational Transitions Commission, to attend a recent Session meeting. Lyman described the various types of pastors and suggested that Boyds is now at a point where the interim position is not as appropriate as the stated supply position.
- Why change? In our situation, simply put, it will bring an end to the “we should wait until we have a permanent pastor” discussion that Session members have heard. Pastor Carrie will be our pastor and will help Session set the course on a long-range planned ministry versus seeking to complete her labors in our midst in the next 12 months. It will allow us to create and shape a three- to five-year strategic vision for the Church with Carrie as the pastor. Changing to stated supply will also give Session and the Church:
 - Increased momentum to bring the word of God to all, in accordance with our mission statement.
 - It will give everyone clarity on vision and mission.
 - It ends speculation on when will the interim period be over.
- Session discussed the suggestion and came to an agreement to consider changing from interim to stated supply and to open a period of input from the congregation on the matter. While the congregation doesn't vote on the change, Session wants to offer everyone the opportunity to provide input. Ways to provide feedback include:
 - Call the Church Office at 301-540-2544 or email boydspc@comcast.net.
 - Contact the Clerk of Session, Doug Fiedler, 240-731-2754 or dlfiedler@aol.com who will share your thoughts with the rest of Session.
 - Discuss the matter with any member of Session including Anne Davies, Brenda Jones, Cathy Reese, Dee Smith or Mark Stunder.
 - Attend the Town Hall Meeting on Sunday, November 4th following a brief congregational meeting where Lyman Smith will be available to answer questions.

Local Mission Giving Update

Session recently voted to approve the Deacons' request for the following local mission giving opportunities, withdrawing from the Good Samaritan fund.

- Interfaith Works—\$1,000
- Stepping Stones Shelter—\$1,000
- The Dwelling Place—\$1,000
- Rainbow Place Shelter—\$1,000
- Germantown HELP—\$1,000
- Mercy Health Clinic—\$1,000
- Friends of the Child Advocacy Center—\$1,000
- Manna Food Center—\$1,000

The Good Samaritan Fund is a restricted reserve fund that was created about five years ago to support local mission giving in the event that income did not allow for local mission giving. After these distributions, the fund will have \$46,000 left.

How can you help? The Deacons have created a Monday Night Out opportunity that will provide local mission funding to the Church. The first one was held on Monday, October 1st and the next two will be on Mondays, November 5th and December 3rd at Ledo Pizza in Germantown after 4PM. Depending on how much business we bring to the restaurant, the Church will receive 10-20% of all revenue. Just identify yourself when you place your order as part of the Boyds Presbyterian Church fundraiser. It applies to in-store dining as well as carry-out.

November: Stewardship Season

Financially, this has been a real hardship year for our finances. As with many churches in an interim period, the uncertainty of “what’s next” typically translates into a drop in giving. We are in the center of that emotion and Session wants to bring more clarity to what you are investing in when you give to the Church.

Our theme for this year’s pledge-making Stewardship Season will be “Invest in Our Future.” In the coming weeks, you will receive the annual pledge letter, but there will be something new to show you what your money will be used for. We are planning a quarterly deliverable calendar that will show you what each Ministry Team, each Board and what Session is planning at a high-level for next year. Session hopes that you will see a bright future ahead with plenty of opportunity to attract the local community to witness the specialness of Boyds Presbyterian first-hand. Prayerfully consider your level of investing into BPC’s future when you receive your pledge request.

November: The Month of Thanksgiving

Session discussed and approved a new opportunity for local mission giving that doesn’t rely on just writing checks and giving money. Instead, it involves getting everyone into a roll-up-your-sleeves mission project. The “Feathers of Opportunity” will support Community Ministries of Rockville, InterFaith Works and our new friends-in-Christ in Puerto Rico.

Look for the large picture of a handsome turkey with removable “feathers” in Pollock-Williams Hall and in the Vail Education Building. Each “feather” will name the mission and the item needed. You will be asked to remove the feather of the item you want to donate and the organization who needs it. For example, if you are heading to Home Depot, there will be a few feathers that state “Puerto Rico Mission Trip” and the feather will include a suggested gift card value. Just add the gift card to your shopping cart and bring it to the Church. Another feather might include InterFaith Works and a twin-bed sheet set (they desperately need new or gently-used bedding and towels).

Remove the feather you want to contribute, then bring the feather and the item into Pollock-Williams Hall. Around Thanksgiving, we will organize a group of volunteers to transport the items to its destination.

Please join this important community outreach project!

Next meeting: Monday, 10/1 at 7PM in P-W Hall.

From the Deacons

The Deacons met on September 10th. We continue to coordinate with the Worship, Fellowship and Mission Teams. We finalized plans for three fundraiser/fellowship nights at Ledo Pizza in Germantown (to be held October 1st, November 5th, and December 3rd, each night from 4-10PM), with the restaurant donating to BPC up to 20% of its proceeds from our members and friends; proceeds would be used for local mission projects currently under discussion. Spread the word widely to help make these events a memorable fellowship event! We also agreed on the following mission allocations for Q3 and Q4: Interfaith Works, Stepping Stones Shelter, The Dwelling Place, Rainbow Place Shelter, Friends of the Child Advocacy Center, Germantown HELP, Manna Food Center, and Mercy Health Care, each to receive \$1,000..

Next meeting: Monday, 10/8 at 7PM in P-W Hall.

From the Trustees

The Board of Trustees met on Tuesday, September 18th. The ELF School agreement has been renewed for two years. Carpet has been removed and solid flooring has been installed in two of the classrooms in the Christian Education Building. The exterior rot repair on P-W Hall has been completed: cost \$7,100.

Next meeting: Tuesday, 10/23 at 7PM in P-W Hall.



From the Worship Team: The Leaves are “All-In” – What About Us?

(by Mark Stunder, Chair)

Ever think about the life of a leaf? It grows on its tree all season, hopefully green. It gets rained on, tossed about in the wind, and sometimes chewed on by insects. But there’s one thing about leaves that is true every year: From start to finish, they are “**all-in.**” Leaves are “all-in” to take bad stuff out of the air and replace it with oxygen. Without leaves and trees/plants...ah... we die!. And leaves are “all-in” and ready to drop off the trees, creating a tapestry of beautiful colors in the process. Most leaves (except evergreens) will change color and down they will ALL come. Not one left. They’re “all-in” to their end.

So, what about us? Pastor Carrie has raised some interesting things in her new sermon series “All-In.” Questions about *“what picture of God’s love do we want our neighbors to see and what picture of God’s love do we want the people sitting right next to us to see? Are we willing to go “all-in” in our faith to expose the light of God’s unconditional love and saving grace?”*

Along those lines, the Worship Team at its September meeting had a good discussion about the church worship calendar—what and how we would like the people sitting next to us to experience worship at BPC between now and mid-winter 2019. (We’ll start to plan for spring and summer 2019 later). We discussed planning for World Communion Sunday (October 7th), All Saints celebration (November 4th), Stewardship Sunday (November 11th with the traditional all-church dinner afterward), a big event - Confirmation Sunday December 2nd, Tree lighting and Advent Festival Friday December 7th, Family Advent Service December 23rd, two Christmas Eve services and so forth into February 2019. Some of you may be aware of the thought of a hymn sing service. That will be one service on February 24th, 2019 in the sanctuary.

We even briefly touched on David’s Psalm 150 “Let everything that has breath praise the Lord.” <https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=ps+150&version=NIV> In that Psalm David is “all-in” about worship.

So, when the leaves come tumbling down soon, consider that they are “all-in.” All-in during the spring when they were first coming out. All-in through the storms, winds and insects. All-in to produce oxygen for us humans and to provide shade on a hot day. All-in when they change color and provide beautiful fall scenes All-in when they fall—nothing can stop them, and none are left on a tree. (And you need to be all-in to rake them!) They are all-in to the end, providing soil nutrients for the next generation of growth in the spring.

The Worship Team is “all-in” this new church year to provide the best worship experience we can offer at BPC. Are you all-in about passionate worship to spread the love of Christ?

The Worship Team usually meets once a month in P-W Hall. Members of the team are: Glenn Karta, Nancy Knott, Dee Smith, Mark Stunder (chair) and Marj Tubful. Staff members include Jasper Davis, and Rev. Carrie Yearick. Our next meeting is Thursday October 11th at 7:00PM.

Next meeting: Thursday, 10/11 at 7PM in P-W Hall. Feel free to join us!



Appreciation and Gratitude to:

- ❖ Everyone who hosted a September fellowship:
 - Brenda Reid Jones & Anne Davies
 - Mission & Merriment
 - CE Team
 - Glenn & Pat Karta
 - Everyone who contributed to the Potluck
- ❖ Margaret Leaman for cleaning the church.



We need volunteers to host **Fellowship** between services on Sundays. It's easier than it sometimes looks. Deacons make the coffee and help serve it and the lemonade. The food is meant to be simple: e.g. cookies, grapes, cheese and crackers. The emphasis is on fellowship and, while a big spread is appreciated, it is wholly unnecessary. So partner with another family, if you like, but please take a turn. Sign up is in P-W Hall. The last Sunday of each month is potluck.



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



Pray for grieving:

Family and friends of those who passed away during September:

- Dwight Mote
- Kaisy Knott
- Marion Eckel (Marolyn Curry's daughter)

Pray for healing:

Gwen Alred; Carlos Aulestia; Taylor Barnes; Karla Barron; Gwen Alred; Praxedes Amador; Ian Armstrong and family; Taylor Barnes; Jeffrey Barrientos; Karla Barron; Stephanie Bennett; Susan Blackman; Callier family; Aaron Cantler; Mark Cantwell; Nancy Daughtry; Dean; Averil Donat; Blair Gibson; Ginger & Steve Gibson; Perri Green; Joe Healy; Gene Hoilman; Ken Huff; Joe Katran; Megan Kerr; Larry King; Eddie Kiser; Renie Kiser; Nancie Kondo; John Labbe; Ellen Landriau; Mark Lewis; Sandy Llewellyn; Jack Louth; Zelda Morgan; Marcia Nass; Christine O'Connell; Jean Phillips; Tony Pirrone; Linda Reise Brainard; Mary Lou Robertson; Justin Rosner; George Smith; Mark Sutch; Andrea Kempner Wink; Arthur & Mary Virts; those who have recently lost loved ones; active members of the armed services and their families; members of our church; those affected by natural disasters 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.



Service & Partnership in Puerto Rico!

Come and join the National Capital Presbytery's Disaster Relief Assistance Network's adult volunteer rebuild trip and partnership with Presbyterian churches and their communities in Puerto Rico.

Who: Adults (18 years and older)

What: Volunteer work trip to rebuild and build partnerships

Where: La Posada de Ángeles; Añasco, Puerto Rico

When: Monday Dec. 31, 2018- Wed. Jan. 9, 2019

(Dates flexible on the back end of trip.)

Cost: \$450.00 (Room/Board, Meals and Rental Van Costs)

This Does Not Include Airfare

<https://ncpdrn.carrd.co/>



National Capital
PRESBYTERY
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LA
POSADA
DE ANGELES





- October 7 – World Communion Sunday
- October 8 – Office Closed
- October 5 – Youth Lock-in
- October 14 – Youth Trip to Brambleton
- October 28 – Potluck

Youth Fall Schedule

- Fri-Sat, Oct 5-6** Lock-In Fri 6:00PM - Sat NOON
 What Does It Mean To Be a Disciple?
 Presbyterianism 101
 10:00-11:00AM – Communion Workshop for kids- Youth lead!
- Week of Oct 7** Mentor Week – What Does It Mean To Show Christ's Love?
 No Ablaze Oct 7th
- Sun, Oct 14** Corn Maze - Brambleton – Ideas for Advent Family Service
 Meet at BPC – Time TBD
- Week of Oct 21** Mentor Week – What is Your Gift?
 No Ablaze Oct 21st
- Sun, Oct 28** Mentor Week – Serve Together Somewhere
 No Ablaze Oct 28th
- Sun, Nov 4** 5:00PM What's up For Advent? Meet at Panera's near Wegmans
- Fri-Sat, Nov 9-10** Lock-In Advent Planning – Fri 6:00PM - Sat 8:30AM
- Week of Nov 11** Mentor Week – Prayer
 No Ablaze Nov 11th
- Sun, Nov 18** 5:00PM Ready To Cross Over?
 Dinner For Confirmands, Parents, Mentors, Session
- Sun, Nov 25** No Ablaze – Happy Thanksgiving
- Sun Dec 2** 9:30AM Confirmation Sunday
 First Act of Being a Member – Help Serve Communion
- Fri, Dec 7** Tree Lighting and Advent Fair – Time TBD
- Sun, Dec 9** Advent Planning – Time TBD
- Fri-Sat, Dec 14-15** Lock-In – Xmas Party and Advent Planning Fri 6:00PM-Sat 8:30AM
- Sat, Dec 22** Rehearsal for Family Advent Service – Time TBD
- Sun, Dec 23** 10:00AM Kerr Hall – Family Advent Service