



The Herald

April 2011

First and St. Stephen's United Church of Christ

6915 York Road

Baltimore, Maryland 21212

410-377-5224 fax: 410-377-4910

Director of Music, Jeffery Beyers
Administrative Assistant, Joyce Kruse

Rev. Linda McFadden, Interim Pastor

Dear Friends,

As I write this, there are four weeks remaining in my tenure at First & St. Stephen's. Easter Sunday will be my last day with you. I am thrilled for you that you have called a gifted pastor to travel with you into the future. Still, the goodbyes that we must say are difficult.

I do not yet know where I will be going from here, but I am confident that the Spirit that led me to this church will lead me to another place where I am needed. At this point, my plan extends only as far as spending a few days of post-Easter r & r with Philip at Kanuga, NC, then remaining there for my first weekend intensive training in Spiritual Direction.

As we part ways, we step out into unknown futures. Someone has said, "We do not know what the future holds, but we do know Who holds the future." Believing that, we step out in faith to follow the Spirit's leading.

Grace and peace,

Linda

Church Workday Saturday, April 2



Put on your work clothes, grab your tools, and head on over to the church on Saturday for our **Spring Workday** starting at 9 a.m. There will be both indoor and outdoor jobs to tackle and projects for kids. We'll order in lunch and have everybody on their way by 1 p.m. Contact Greg Snyder if you have questions.

Habitat Interfaith Build Sunday, April 10



Our next opportunity to work on an **interfaith build** team is coming up. The registration form and instructions are on the church Web site. If you have questions, please contact Dave Noppenberger.

Holy Week

Sun., April 17

Palm Sunday Service with Procession of Palms and reading of the Passion narrative

Farewell lunch for Linda following the service

Wed., April 20

Supper Club

Thurs., April 21, 7:30 p.m.

Maundy Thursday Service with Communion

Fri., April 22

Church Open for Prayer and Meditation

Sun., April 24

Easter Service of Worship



Special Offering April 3

Consistory Meeting, April 10

Note change! The Consistory meeting scheduled to meet on April 17 has moved to **April 10 following the worship service** due to the luncheon for Linda.

A Note from Terry Fitzgerald to the Search Committee and Congregation:

I first of all want to commend the Search Committee for their dedication, hard work, and faithfulness to their important task! The congregation was well served by your efforts.

And I want to extend my deep appreciation and gratitude to the congregation for your generous welcome and hospitality! The food was fantastic; the gatherings were great; the conversation was lively! I thoroughly enjoyed myself and was delighted to meet all of you! It was a joy to worship with you!

I am very excited about the beginning of my ministry with you and look forward to being back in your midst in May.

I pray for you!

I thank you!

Terry

Supper Club - Wednesday, April 20

Fish sticks, macaroni & cheese and canned vegetables are needed. Please use the needs list in the Gathering Room to check off the food item/items you are willing to contribute. Thank you.

Our Church Family

Janice Galiani is the proud grandmother of **Paz Olivia Galiani**, born March 8. . . . Congratulations to **Sam Marshall** on becoming a United States citizen on March 17! Sam, we are so proud of you. . . . We also congratulate **Daniel Seubert** and **Tatiana Kortenko**, who were married on March 21. . . . **Barbara Joellenbeck** is traveling in the Pacific Northwest with husband **Dean Calahan**.

April Needs for ACTC

Canned fruit
Canned meat
Jelly



Church Communications Workshop

A timely event pursuant to our discussions of how to reach and invite others to church is "**Church in the Age of Twitter**," April 8-9, 2011, at the Holiday Inn, 890 Elkridge Landing Rd, in Linthicum, MD. Learn practical suggestions to establish or improve social networking skills in your church and share ideas with others. The presenter is Rev. Cameron Trimble of the Center for Progressive Renewal, Marietta, GA. Time: 3:00 p.m. April 8 – 2:00 p.m. April 9. Cost: \$30 registration fee includes workshop, Friday dinner and Saturday lunch. Sponsored by the CAC Church Vitality Committee. Call the CAC office to register: 410-788-4190.

Church Office Hours

Monday, Wednesday, Friday

8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Other hours by appointment

Support Sam's Alma Mater

The alumni association of **Booker Washington Institute**, a leading vocational and technical school in Liberia, will hold its second annual awards dinner and benefit on April 23 in Silver Spring, MD. The goal is "to raise the bar in educational standards for Liberian youth." The group is seeking tax-deductible sponsorships for the event ranging from \$100 to \$3000. Tickets for the event are also available at a cost of \$60-\$100.

A flyer describing the event is posted in the Gathering Room. For information on BWI or the fundraiser, contact Sam Marshall (BWI class of 1980), 443-529-7173.

Happy Birthday

April 5 - Nancy Heese
April 5 - Taylor Brown
April 14 - Erica Cox

Greeters for April

April 3 Martha Wharton & Pat Glee
 April 10 Bill Ingram
 April 17 Amanda Ajulu & Arthur Apiyo
 April 24 Rachel Ezell, Leonard DuFauchard
 Maya, Trey & Griffin

Prayer Shawls Needed



From Carroll Hospital Center Prayer Shawl Ministry we have received a note of thanks for past support and request for more prayer shawls. For info, contact Brenda Yezalina, 410-848-6760. Prayer Shawl Ministry is a volunteer program that helps patients heal in a physical, as well as, spiritual way. Shawls are knitted, crocheted and quilted.

A Church Mystery

A mysterious abundance of **peppers** has materialized in the refrigerator and freezer in the downstairs kitchenette. The freezer is completely filled with this unexplained crop. If you can shed any light on the source of this abundance, please contact the church office. We really would like to be able to use the freezer and refrigerator space for storing Supper Club items.

Vacation Church School

We need a volunteer to coordinate VCS this summer. Perhaps two or three people could do it as a team. Please let Linda know or contact the church office. Thank you.

April		Lectionary & Readers
3	Nancy Heese	John 9:1-41
10	Richard Arrington	Ezek 37:1-14, Ps 130, John 11:1-45
17	Emily Perl	Matt 21:1-11, Matt 26:14-27:66, Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29
24	Debbie Kavanagh	Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24, John 20:1-8

Books for Sale

We have some extra copies of *An Altar in the World* by Barbara Brown Taylor in the church office for \$10. Members of the 8th Day Group reading the book are finding Taylor's writing wise, insightful, accessible, and entertaining. A reviewer writes, "Not a page-turner, it is a page-lingerer." Great reading for Lent.

**Consistory persons for April
Ruth Ann Seubert & Bill Ingram**



Cathedral Trip - March 19

Prayer Requests - We want to share your prayer requests with the church family. This is best done in writing, either by prayer card or email to the office. We would also appreciate a note about members of the church family who need a call or visit.



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