



BPC Mission Statement

Connecting all to God's love and grace.

Engage. Nurture. Serve.

NEWSLETTER

Boyd's Presbyterian Church

19901 White Ground Road

Boyd's, MD 20841

301-540-2544

boydspc.org

boydspc@comcast.net

VOL. XXX

February/March 2020

2/3

From Pastor Carrie

Greetings!

The Epiphany season has come and gone and now we turn our hearts and minds toward the **Season of Lent**. Lent began on February 26th with the **Ash Wednesday Dinner and Worship** and continues for 6 weeks until we celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus on Easter Sunday, April 12th. During this Lenten season, we set aside time to prepare our hearts, minds, and lives to be changed by the hope of the resurrection. There are many practices we can do to enhance the Lenten experience. We can give something up or take something on - from 40 prayers in 40 days; 40 notes in 40 days; Photo-A-Day; a 40 day challenge of random acts of kindness; or giving up things like complaining and worry and taking on a focus of gratitude and trusting Divine Providence, whatever you do, the hope and prayer is that it will deepen our relationship with God and others.

This Lent, in worship, we will focus on God's Life-Giving Power, as we make our way through the Lectionary texts. Invite a friend or neighbor to worship with us and make room for God this Lent!

LENTEN SERMON SERIES

Wednesday, February 26 th	Ash Wednesday - <i>Letting Go</i>
Sunday, March 1 st	<i>Making the Most of Lent</i>
Sunday, March 8 th	<i>How Can This Be?</i>
Sunday, March 15 th	<i>Thirstiness</i>
Sunday, March 22 nd	<i>Seeing God Face-to-Face</i>
Sunday, March 29 th	<i>God's Life-Giving Power</i>
Sunday, April 5 th	<i>Palm Sunday- Joining the Parade</i>
Sunday, April 12 th	<i>Easter! The Hope of the Resurrection</i>

We continue to serve our community with family friendly **First Friday Events**. March 6th, we have a **Bingo and movie night** featuring "Frozen 2" and a Winter Wonderland theme (or it might be an Unfrozen theme seeing how the weather has been most of this winter!) Either way, dinner, Bingo, prizes, a movie and great family fun will be had starting at 5:30 PM!

The April First Friday event, on April 3rd, will be a **Spring Fest**. Dinner, Spring Fling carnival-type games, arts and crafts and family fun will start at 5:30 PM. Come and enjoy the festive atmosphere, learn more about our neighbors and join in the fun.

Holy Week begins April 5th as we celebrate Palm Sunday and communion. We will again partner with St. Marks for Maundy Thursday Worship on April 9th, as we share a meal at 6:30 PM and gather for worship at 7:00 PM. Communion and tracing the events of the last days of Jesus will help us prepare for Easter morn.

May these next six weeks be a growing one for us all!

Blessings!

Carrie

Upcoming & Recurring Events

Bring your gloves and rakes, and join us for the **Cemetery Cleanup** on Saturday, March 28th. We will pick up trash and remove old decorations from the grave sites. If you can help with this project, please meet in P-W Hall at 9 AM for coffee and donuts. Contact Dick Ernst at 301-540-2143 for more information. Rain date is April 4th.

- Church grounds will be mulched prior to cleanup by a contractor.
- If you have Christmas decorations on an existing grave that you would like to keep, please remove prior to the cleanup.

Easter plant orders (in memory of loved ones) are due April 6th. Order envelopes will be available in the Sanctuary and P-W Hall beginning next week.

Lunch Bunch meets the second Tuesday of each month at various restaurants. The next gathering is March 10th at NOON at *Longhorn Steakhouse* in Germantown. For reservations, contact Heather Haley at 301-428-3081 or hhheather@comcast.net by Sunday, March 8th.

Young Adults will meet March 2nd @ 7:00 PM at Casey's home. Please contact Casey Pleasants if you're interested at caseypleasants95@gmail.com.

Music Team now meets most Tuesdays at 6 PM in the Sanctuary. Contact Jasper at 706-405-5262 if you're interested, or you can just come join us.

M&Ms (Mission and Merriment group) meet the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month in P-W Hall, from 11 AM – 1 PM. At each meeting, we start with a devotion, have a brief business meeting and then make fleece blankets for local charities. Some members also knit and crochet prayer shawls and hats at their homes. Contact Marj Turbyfill at 301-972-0265 if you're interested in receiving any of the items we provide or for more information.

2020 Offering Envelopes are in the church vestibule. If you weren't assigned a box and would like envelopes, please contact the church office.

The **2020 Per Capita** for each communicant member is **\$42.64**. Per capita is what BPC pays to *The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)*, in order to cover the denomination's general administrative expenses. If you choose to help offset this expense, you may use the first blue envelope in your offering box designated for "per capita apportionment."



From the Deacons

The Deacons met on January 13th. They were joined by Cornelia Burr, Cathy Reese, and Norma Russell, who have been nominated to serve as Deacons. Ushering and fellowship slots were filled through March, and Pastor Carrie spoke of the meaning of communion as being a time of joy and thanksgiving.

Next meeting: Monday, 4/13 at 7 PM in P-W Hall. No March meeting.

From the Trustees / Buildings & Grounds Team

The Board of Trustees met on Tuesday, January 28th and February 25th. Newly elected trustees are Chris Schmidt and Dick Ernst. Dick was elected to serve as president and Margaret Leaman will serve as secretary. Monuments were installed for Jennifer Shipe and Edna and Nancy Larman, and there was one burial (on December 21st)—Mabel Sizemore. An ultraviolet light, which kills bacteria, and a new water mixing valve were installed in the kitchen at the CE Building – cost \$720. A much-needed office chair was purchased for our Office Manager – cost \$130. Dead trees, stumps, and some smaller trees were removed from Camp Sunshine, as well as the tree that was hanging over the walkway leading into P-W Hall – cost \$1,850. Bulb replacements and lighting issues are being addressed on an on-going basis. Dick is working on getting estimates for various repairs and upgrades to be considered for the manse. It has been brought to Trustees' attention that outdated and spoiled food is being left in the refrigerator in the CE Building. A notice was placed on the refrigerator about this problem, and individuals are being asked to be responsible for the disposal of food they bring for various gatherings.

The annual spring cleanup has been scheduled for March 28th, beginning at 9 AM. Decorations in the cemetery will be removed at that time in order to facilitate the mowing and general upkeep of the cemetery during the upcoming summer months. Decorations placed on the actual headstone will not be affected. Arrangements for mulch to be delivered and spread are being made – cost \$825. A replacement for the broken window in the CE Building has been ordered from Quality Window and Glass Repair – cost \$395. New paper towel dispensers have been installed in the two bathrooms in P-W Hall – estimated total cost \$40. Shelves and storage containers were installed in the Sanctuary basement – cost \$195.75. HVAC filters were changed on February 1st. Dick has pulled together a list of estimated costs for repairs and upgrades needed at the manse. Don Pleasants donated a load of millings for the driveway at the manse, and R&P Backhoe spread the millings the end of January. Met with Mike Little of Park and Planning to locate boundary lines for Camp Sunshine to determine if the camp is solely on church property. It was determined that we are not infringing on Park property, but that we are "on the edge". The back door to the CE Building has been left unlocked on more than one occasion. Please be sure this door is locked when leaving the building.

Next meeting: Tuesday, 3/24 at 7 PM in P-W Hall.

Ministry Teams



Faith Formation Team, By Dee Smith

The meeting was opened with prayer and a devotional. The Wednesday adult class Lenten study is the Walk by Adam Hamilton. The Sunday morning group has continued with the study by Rick Warren. The young adults will increase to meeting twice a month. They enjoyed a live worship service Monday evening with music. Their group is diverse in background but come together to learn and share the word of Jesus.

After circulating the draft job description in the month of January, on January 24th, the Faith Formation Team met to discuss the relevant edits to the job description for Director of Next Generation Ministry. The final draft was forwarded to the Session for discussion at their February meeting. The Session tabled the discussion for the approval to circulate this job description. At the March Session meeting, the motion to circulate the job description in the original form with just a few minor tweaks was passed with the exception that it be a "independent contractor" position, not an "employee" of the church. After trying to figure out how this might work given the job description, it has come to our attention that it may not be compliant with laws regarding employees vs. contractors. Further research will be done to determine the way forward. This position is very important to the future growth of our church and has been supported by a number of generous donors. We are planning on getting this job description out soon.

First Friday in February was a parent's night out. The night was full of fun and laughter with many volunteers making the night go smoothly. There were several crafts, games and of course dinner provided to all who attended.

First Friday March 6th will be the movie-"Frozen 2," with bingo and dinner as well. Volunteers are preparing another enjoyable outreach event for the community. Our wonderful M&Ms have graciously been helping prepare goodie bags for the children who attend and will be filling the eggs for the Easter egg hunt in April. Flyers have gone out to the ELF school families, as well as notification on the church's Facebook page, website, emails, and a banner announcing the event.

On April 3rd, we will have a "Spring Fest" as we prepare for Easter and on the first Friday in May, May 1st, we will celebrate with a "Uno de Mayo" fiesta!

Adult Study Group – from Dick Ernst

On February 19th, we started our lent study "The Walk" by Adam Hamilton which will conclude on March 25th. On April 1st, we will begin a study titled "Haggai: Being a Pillar in God's House."

If anyone who is not currently attending would like to join us for either of these studies, please let us know so we can be sure to have enough materials for everyone. You can contact Dick Ernst at 301-540-2143 or dickernst48@yahoo.com.

Next meeting: TBD.

Fellowship Team, By Anne Davies

Sunday Fellowship: Thanks to Cornelia Burr, Chris and Karla Schmidt, and Adult Bible Fellowship for hosting in January; to Brenda & David Jones, Cathy Reese & Maria Romero, and Kim Grimes who hosted in February; and to everyone who shared on Potluck Sundays.

Ash Wednesday: Thanks to the following who brought food. Janice Edwing, Lisa Fiedler, St. Mark's Church, Darlene Kerr, Brenda Hoyt, Hammet Hough Cornelia Burr, and Anne Davies.

Soul Sisters was at *Firebirds* in February. We will meet at the new *Mission Barbeque*, 19800 Century Blvd (former Ruby Tuesdays) in Germantown on March 19th at 6:30 PM. We would LOVE to have you join us. Please let Anne Davies know if you can come at 301-922-4332 or nannedavies@verizon.net.

Next Meeting: 3/10 in P-W Hall at 7 PM. Please come and share your ideas of how to promote Christian fellowship at BPC!

The Time Has Come to Make A Choice, by Mark Stunder



To say that 2020 got off to a wild start would be an understatement: The actions by and against Iran, and then the downing of the Ukrainian plane, the movement to the trial phase of the impeachment process and the acquittal, the peak of the Australian fires, the continued shaking in Puerto Rico, coronavirus, the stock market, primary election season start, crazy weather swings... the list goes on. Plenty of challenges and even worries. But how do we choose to react to these challenges and worrisome things?

We too at Boyds have our challenges. The biggest issue is what kind of church do we want to be in the future. There are those that want to curl-up and not invest much in growth, in order to just keep the doors open. Personally, I understand that. It's a conservative move. It's all

about the numbers so cut back on staff, programs, new initiatives, and just keeps the lights on. It would not help us to grow, but we would survive, for a while. And that is acceptable to some.

Then there are those who want to evangelize the community and try to reach the unchurched or under-churched more. These want to invest whatever we need in order to grow. Personally, I understand that too. It's a progressive move. The goal is to fulfill the mission of the church which is to bring people to the love of Christ and to grow the body of believers. And that is acceptable to some.

There is probably another side that is indifferent to this fork in the road we face. I understand that too!

I'm sure all sides agree we need to love God, love one another and our neighbors, and all sides say they love the church. And interestingly, it would appear that all sides agree that it's kids and families that we need to reach out to. We are not unique. This issue affects many churches,

So, how does this play out in worship?

Each of us has a choice to make in how we see things moving forward for the church. But in worship, one hopes that all worship in a joyful manner and not in a sad way. Worship should be an expression of joy, not sadness.

There is an interesting modern Christian video by King and Country, a popular Australian group called "Joy." It has a clear message for our church and for the world of focusing on joy and not being depressed. Check out the video at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IA7n7TwPDmw>

A lyrics only version also worth watching can be found at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E-r7ogDaaEQ> (you can paste the links into your browser).

The video opens with a dire weather news report from fittingly, Channel 13- KSAD. The news anchorwoman continues on and on about bad things. In contrast, the co-anchor next to her tries to focus not on sad or bad things, but instead on joyous things. Then the video shows the transformation of the crew and eventually the woman co-anchor to one of joy. The song even weaves in a version of "I've got the joy, joy, joy, down in my heart."

One key chorus line goes like this:

*Oh, hear my prayer tonight, I'm singing to the sky
Give me strength to raise my voice, let me testify
Oh, hear my prayer tonight, 'cause this is do or die
The time has come to make a choice
And I choose joy*

It is interesting that the song writer calls everyone to make a choice and to CHOOSE JOY. Plus, the song writer prays for strength and to let him testify. Joy and prayer are two good attributes to bring to worship.

First, come to worship with a joyful heart. Yes, there are always a range of issues to be concerned about on any given Sunday morning: the church itself, finances, family, government, international and job issues—and all other forms of issues are out there. But we serve a loving God, one who cares for us. Proverbs 17:22 tells us: A cheerful heart is good medicine, but a crushed spirit dries up the bones.

And most importantly, pray. Pray not only during worship but pray every time possible. Paul in Colossians 4:2 says: Devote yourselves to prayer; stay alert in it with thanksgiving.

Pray that God's path be made known to us as individuals and to the church. Pray that God will show the church how to be involved in God's work and to motivate us to move forward.

We have a choice: to be sad and fearful as in the video start with the KSAD rendering of bad news. Or we can choose joy, a joy in Christ that does away with any doubts and fears about the future.

What is your choice?



Pray for grieving:

Family and friends of those who passed away during February and March:

- Polly Shipley
- Roy Carter (Grace Tuner's brother)
- Eleanor McIntire (Deanna Tucker's mother)
- Dolly Larman

Pray for healing:

Alicia & Jon, Ashley & Grayson, Benjamin Allnutt, Betty Allnutt, Pat Williams Allnutt, Lu Asbury, Taylor Barnes, Karla Barron, Carole Beal, Tom Blackman, Jenny Lerner Brown, Leroy Byrd family, Aaron & Bill Cantler, Justin & Claire Cantwell, Mark Cantwell, Julia Clayton, Larry (Butch) Curtis, Nancy & Ben Daughtry, Meghan Davidson, Dean, Averi Donat, Larry Dorsey, Juanita Ernst, Ginger & Steve Gibson, Gregory Glaude, Greg, Amy Gupta, Ken Heins, Gene & Rex Hoilman, Audrey Hopkins, Ruth Hoyt, Billy Huff, Eskin Huff, Jason Johnson, Peggy Johnson, Joe Katran, Keegan, Kreg Kephart, Larry King, Eddie Kiser, Irene Kiser, Paul Kiser, Renie Kiser, Ellen Landriau, Sterling Large, Betty Lohr, Charles McIntosh, Jane Mote, Tina Norris, Abbie Pack, Tony Pirrone, Tracey Plummer, Fred Pollack, Dan Rock, Reza Raoofi, Justin Rosner, Robbie Schmidt, Betty Shaw, Bobbie Lou Shipman and family, Mike & Carol Slingluff, George Smith, Karen Springer, Mark Sutch, Wendy Sutch-Kiser, Laura Tatton, Valyn Toquinto, 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 has prayer shawls to give to anyone, church member or friend.

To request a prayer shawl, please contact Marj Turbyfill at 301-972-0265.



March 2 – Session & Young Adults
March 3 – Faith Formation Team
March 6 – First Friday event
March 10 – Lunch Bunch & Fellowship Team
March 15 – Session
March 19 – Soul Sisters, Spring officially arrives @ 11:50 PM
March 20 – Newsletter Articles due
March 24 – Trustees / B&G Team
March 28 – Cemetery Cleanup



Bad Weather Action Plan

In the event of heavy weather this season, please use one of the following for worship schedule changes:

- * Call the church office @ 301-540-2544
- * Check our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/BoydPresbyterianChurch>
- * Check our webpage: <https://www.boydspc.org>

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