

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

PALM/PASSION SUNDAY (April 1). No communion. Solemn reading of the Passion of Christ from the Gospel According to Luke. Patent Pending sings "Barabbas" at the 10:45 service.

MAUNDY THURSDAY (April 5) Prayer in song and silence. Communion around the table in the sanctuary, 7:30 p.m. **PLEASE SIGN UP** for the Prayer Vigil to follow from 9:00 p.m. through Good Friday 12 noon.

GOOD FRIDAY COMMUNITY SERVICE (April 6)

12 noon Trinity Episcopal Church, Good Friday Liturgy

1:00 p.m. Time for prayer; walk to New Street United Methodist Church

1:30–2:30 p.m. "The Twelve Who Knew Him," a dramatic presentation at New Street

2:30–3:00 p.m. Time for prayer and meditation; walk to St. Agnes Catholic Church

3:00–4:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross at St. Agnes

EASTER SUNDAY Informal Sunrise Service at Rumsey Monument Park, 6:30 a.m. Please bring a special reading, such as a poem, prose or scripture, or share a song with the group. Light breakfast to follow at Becky Phipps'. Bring breakfast breads or fruit to share.

Liturgy of the Word & Table, 8:30 and 10:45 a.m. Special Offering: One Great Hour of Sharing.

Earth Day Forum: Reclaiming a Christian Vision for God's Good Earth

Sponsored by the Shepherdstown Ministerial Association and hosted by SPC

Earth Day **Sunday, April 22**, 6:00 p.m. Environmentalist Allen Johnson, Co-founder Christians for the Mountains will lead the dialogue among people of faith about stewardship of God's creation.

Christians for the Mountains' focus is local and regional (southern Appalachian Mountains). Its first objective is the end of mountaintop removal. It's award-winning film, *Mountain Mourning*, addresses the effects of mountaintop removal in the mining industry.

Allen Johnson was interviewed for *The New York Times* and *Newsweek*, and was profiled on Bill Moyers' documentary, *Is God Green?* He is a founding member of the Religious Campaign for Forest Conservation and is a reservist with Christian Peacemaker Teams. Mr. Johnson has a B.A. in Biology and a Masters in Theology and Public Policy from Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary, and is active with the Church of the Brethren.

APRIL FORUM ON THE APOSTLE PAUL

Richard Carlson, Gladfelter Professor of Biblical Studies at Lutheran Theological Seminary in Gettysburg, PA will return to SPC this April to present a two-day forum on the writings of the apostle Paul, which occupy nearly half of the New Testament. Paul was the first to recognize the political (reconciliation of alienated groups) and mystical (union with God through Christ) implications of the life, death and resurrection of Jesus for all people, not just Jews. For better or worse, Paul shaped the "Jesus movement" into an organization with transnational potential.

The first part of this event will focus on what Paul claims really happened in Jesus' death on the cross and how that event shapes our lives as Christians. Part two will explore Paul's notion of spirituality: the reality of the Holy Spirit at work in our lives, producing its holistic fruit, endowing us with particular gifts, and empowering our Christian life and praxis (or practice).

Carlson's exceptionally informative and enthusiastic presentation last spring on the Gospel of Mark was one of our most well received offerings in years, and generated a chorus of calls for his return. Don't miss this opportunity to deepen our understanding of the church's first and perhaps most influential theologian.

Paul and the Cruciform Life, **Friday, April 27**, 7:30–9:00 p.m.

Suggested reading: Romans 5–6; 1 Corinthians 1–2; 2 Corinthians 5; Galatians 2–3; Philippians 2–3.

Paul on the Spiritual Life, **Saturday, April 28**, 9:30–11:30 a.m.

Suggested reading: Romans 12; 1 Corinthians 12–14; 2 Corinthians 3; Galatians 5–6.

PARENT WORKSHOP

Join Jamie Gregory, Clinical Social Worker and consultant to Jefferson County Public Schools, for an engaging evening presentation on Parents as Change Agents for Challenging Children, Wednesday, **April 4**, 6:00–7:30 p.m., Fellowship Hall. Jamie will share strategies and real-world scenarios that help parents, grandparents, and adults who work with adolescents avoid power struggles that accidentally reward negativity. Please feel free to bring an interested friend, family member, or colleague. Nursery care provided by calling the church office.

DINNER WITH NADIA AYOUB

Presbyterian Missionary To Tajikistan

(Below is an excerpt. Ed's complete article is on SPC's website.)

On Saturday, February 24, I had the privilege of attending a dinner held to greet Nadia Ayoub, a missionary to Tajikistan....Nadia Ayoub is a remarkable woman. She was born in Cairo, Egypt into a Christian family and immigrated to the United States in 1984. She received BS degrees in agriculture and in Christian Theology from the Evangelical Theology Seminary. She is fluent in English, Arabic and Russian. Nadia is a candidate for ordination to the Ministry of Word and Sacrament in the Presbytery of Elizabeth and is a member of the Central Presbyterian Church in Summit, NJ....

In 2000, she was assigned as a mission co-worker to Tajikistan....This is where Ms. Ayoub began her true work by assisting a group of teachers from the Russian Baptist Church who were teaching Ethics in these internats [state-run orphanages].

Nadia's program was so successful that in 2004, she established the Friendly Day Care Center in the... Church in Dushanbe. The center was open to Christians and non-Christians with the only stipulation that the "Ethics" lessons would come from the life of Our Lord Jesus Christ....

Muslim mothers welcomed a place for their children to learn while giving them an opportunity to do other things (such as get a job). The Muslim community also welcomed Nadia's ability to teach their children Arabic. Now their children could learn to read the Koran in Arabic as it should be read by the principles of Islamic faith. Nadia was happy because now the children could tell their parents about Jesus Christ.

It was amazing to listen to this shy and unassuming woman tell the story of her work in a very dangerous part of the world. The fact that she hardly ever mentioned that it is a dangerous place, speaks volumes about her quiet courage and commitment to bring the Good News to the people of Tajikistan, one child at a time.

—Ed Rakowski

Spiritual Formation...

WEAVINGS: CHECK IT OUT! *"Be still and know that I am God" (Psalm 46:10). Originally these words were a command for warring nations to cease hostile actions. But spiritual writers have long seen in them God's invitation to cease the determined busyness that is hostile to fullness of life with God and neighbor. The invitation expands beyond mere outward deceleration to encourage an inner quieting of whatever turbulence agitates mind and heart. In this poised waiting, we may begin to apprehend the sovereign presence of the shy God and the irreducible sacredness of the vulnerable neighbor."*

These reflections by John Mogabgab introduce the January/February 2007 edition of the magazine *Weavings: A Journal of the Christian Spiritual Life*, available in the literature rack in SPC office foyer. This edition of *Weavings* is dedicated to "Stillness" (one of my favorite topics) and includes articles by Wendy Wright and Roberta Bondi (two of my very favorite spiritual writers!) Bondi's piece is especially poignant, describing the darkness and confusion of major life change. Bondi writes: "I don't know exactly what I am being called to next, but then again that is the nature of a true transition...if you are in a state of confusion, try to be still and know that we are all held in God's goodness...often enough, God's grace flows to us out of darkness rather than light, but all of it is from the same faithful source: the loving generosity of God."

This, and so much more in *Weavings*—check it out!

—Ethel Hornbeck,

Parish Assistant for Spiritual Formation

(Note: The Rev. Andrew "Andy" Gullick served SPC from 1959–1963. He died at his home in Texas Feb. 10. We remembered and gave thanks for his life and ministry at SPC on Sunday, Feb. 18. Session Clerk Mary Ellen Lloyd shared recollections gathered from members of the congregation. Pastor Tremba's tribute plus Mary Ellen's Remembrances [available on SPC's web page] were sent to Andy's wife Ruth. Here is an excerpt from her letter.)

Dear Randy and SPC:

My family and I were deeply touched by the memorial you had on Feb. 18 celebrating Andy's ministry. The Shepherdstown Presbyterian Church always held a special place in our hearts because it, along with Kearneysville and Zion (Bakerton), was his first pastorate. But more important than that, it was the members of those congregations who welcomed us and loved and supported us in many, many ways.

Churches have a great deal to do with training a person to become a pastor. These loving congregations took Andy fresh from seminary and nurtured and guided him in this journey. I think they did a

super job.

We have such happy memories of our years in Shepherdstown. In the last week before his death Andy said he would like to go to Shepherdstown. So you see it was a special place for him.

Please convey to the Session and to Mary Ellen as Clerk our deepest appreciation. —*Ruth Gullick*

Monthly Activities...

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S CIRCLE First Thursdays, 10:00 a.m. All women of the church are invited to attend. The Horizons Bible Study for 2006-2007 is *Perspectives on Genesis*. **Next: April 5.**

FIRST THINGS FIRST SUNDAY Coins for relief of hunger and non-perishables for JCCM (see list on next column). **Next: April 1.**

TAIZE SERVICE First Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m. in the sanctuary. Prayer in song & silence. **Next: April 4.**

SUPPER GROUPS Movable Feast, **Saturday, April 14** (note change from April 7), 6:30 p.m. at Carole & David Scott's, RSVP and for directions, call 304-876-2263; TGIF, **Friday, April 20**, 6:30 p.m. (note time change) at Jim & Joni Edwards', 304-728-9795. Meet at SPC at 5:30 p.m. to carpool.

MEN'S BREAKFAST Third Saturdays, Bill Wagner and Phil Baker-Shenk to cook homegrown eggs at 7:30 a.m.; John Burns convenes "Retirement II" from 8-9 a.m. **Next: April 21.**

CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER Third Sundays, balcony, 7-7:30 p.m. **Next: April 15**

CANTERBURY SERVICE of song, prayer and scripture, third Mondays, 10:30 a.m. Please join us in this joyful SPC ministry. Coordinator Debbie Romano, debbieromano@hughes.net. **Next: April 16.**

ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION GROUPS Second Thursdays, 10:00-11:00 a.m. with Pastor Tremba. Any and all questions considered. Fourth Thursdays, 10:00-11:00 a.m. with Ethel Hornbeck. Reflection and conversation around scripture and other texts. **Next: April 12 & 26.**

PAPER RECYCLING BY 4-H GROUP at Christ Reformed Church, 8-9:15 a.m. Paper, cardboard, magazines, books. Place in paper bags, boxes, or tie securely. NO PLASTIC BAGS. **Next: April 7.**

Notices...

CALLING ALL SPC CHILD SITTERS! The Nursery Committee is creating a guild of baby sitters to assist during special SPC events. Any young person (or not

so young SPCer) who is interested in occasional, paid baby sitting, contact Kathy Gottlieb at 304-876-8132 or gottlieb@frontiernet.net.

INTERESTED IN SPC MEMBERSHIP? Let the pastor or church office know. A Saturday morning orientation will be scheduled in early spring.

CHURCH WORLD SERVICE appeal for school kits. For more information go to www.churchworldservice.org/kits.

JCCM Food Pantry needs canned meats & fruits, cereal (dry & cooked), pancake mix, pancake syrup, jelly, toilet paper, dish detergent, laundry detergent.

Ongoing needs: toothpaste, toothbrushes, shampoo, bath soap, baby foods, and clean shopping bags & large paper grocery bags.

JCCM has extended its hours and will now accept clothing & food on the last Saturday of the month from 9:00 a.m.-noon. *This is for donations only. No client services are available.*

SHENANDOAH WOMEN'S CENTER New bras and underwear for women and children, nightgowns, bedroom slippers, mattress covers (twin, double, queen), and pillows; used, *but in good condition*, sheets (twin, double, queen)

Ongoing needs: pre-paid long distance cards, laundry detergent (powder), shower gel, ACT fluoride rinse, waxed dental floss, diapers & baby wipes.

Place items in the red basket by the water fountain in the Fellowship Hall.

••••ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING••••

In West Virginia we can identify needy people and projects to support with funds and volunteer work. It's tougher to find ways to help people outside of our area. We hear about terrible natural disasters, and hungry people in the U.S. and overseas. But how can we know that our contributions will actually get to the hungry and needy?

On Easter Sunday, the Presbyterian Church USA answers that question through the One Great Hour of Sharing. Presbyterian churches around the country take a special offering, pool the money and give it to projects selected by the staff of the PCUSA.

About one third of the offering goes to the Presbyterian Hunger Program, for grants to food banks and other aid to hungry people here and abroad. Another third goes to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance—programs in several southern states and a few foreign countries. The final third will be for Self Development of Peoples programs in the U.S. and overseas.

Let's be generous in this Easter's One Great Hour of Sharing.
—*Bill Wagner*

Non-profit Organization
U. S. POSTAGE PAID
Permit No. 35
Shepherdstown WV

SHEPHERDSTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Post Office Box 268
Shepherdstown WV 25443
office@spcworks.org

Thank You...

To Randy and extended SPC family:

Lee and I would like to thank you for keeping us in your thoughts as we remember Lee's mother, Nancy Hatfield. Her resilience, optimism, generosity, and hospitality were gifts to us and many others, and she is still a strong presence in our lives. Thank you for your prayers.
—Chris Morehouse

Our family sincerely expresses our thankfulness for all your cards, concerns and particularly your prayers on the recent loss of Eldred's father. We also thank Randy for driving to Stanton, Va. to perform the service at the interment. It was beautiful. The prayer shawl is absolutely lovely as well as comforting. It means more to us than you could ever imagine. How blessed we are to have family, friends and a loving church community.
—Eldred, Dena, Joe, and Angie

Thank you sincerely for sharing our sorrow in the death of my mother. During a time like this, we realize how much our family and friends mean to us. The flowers, cards, phone calls and especially the prayer shawl, has given me much comfort knowing we are not alone in our sorrow.
—Sue Barney

During my recent two stints in the hospital, our church community surrounded us with loving care. I want to thank all the people who visited, called, emailed, and sent cards. Two special angels in our midst are Nancy Wilson and Lucy Gay. We are truly blessed to be a part of the SPC congregation!

—John Burns

Thanks for all your prayers, cards, rides, food and positive thoughts during my recent surgery. See you soon.
—Joni Edwards

We are grateful to all of you who held us in prayer as our family journeyed to Russia to visit the orphanages where Jenny lived, and to learn about the history and present experience of people there. We truly needed your prayers and were sustained by them. We return home grateful for this opportunity to learn, but also with heavy hearts for all the suffering, corruption and despair we saw there. We invite you to join with us in prayer for the Russian people.

—Charlotte Baker-Shenk

Financial Corner...

General Fund through March 25. Expected: \$59,077. Actual giving: \$54,837. **Building Fund** pledged for 2007: \$30,000. Submitted to date: \$5,816.

In Our Prayers...

Barkley Sutherland • Yvonne Fisher (death of brother)
• Alex Wagner (post-surgery) • Courtney Struthers (death of father) • Cooks Creek (VA) Presbyterian Church's Gulfport Mission Team

NEXT NEWSLETTER: May 2007. Announcements, articles or news on our members? Contact the office, 304-876-6466 or <office@spcworks.org> Copy deadline **April 25.**

Let us know if you would like to get the newsletter on line. It will save us paper and postage.