

WEATHER-RELATED CANCELLATIONS Check web page or call the church 304-876-6466 for a message.

ADDICTION AND GRACE

Gerald May's book is the focus of classes to be held on Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m., **January 9, 16, 23 and 30**. In his book, Gerald May, a psychiatrist and spiritual teacher, explores the "processes of attachment" that lead to addiction and describes the relationship between addiction and spiritual awareness. May's book offers a hope-filled vision for those who desire to examine the mystery of who and what they really are. Books are in the Fellowship Hall for \$15; pay what you can. The classes will be led by Yvonne Fisher and Ethel Hornbeck.

DIACONATE RETREAT

Part 1, Evening Prayer, **Friday, January 11**, 7:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Part 2, **Saturday, January 12**, 9 a.m.–3 p.m., Priest's Field Pastoral Center, Middleway. Carpools leave SPC at 8:30.

SPC WASHINGTON MISSION/WORK STUDY TRIP

SPC adults and youth ages 12 and older are invited to participate in an inter-generational mission/work study trip to Washington, D.C. on **January 25–27**. We will travel to Washington by car on Friday evening, and return Sunday afternoon. Part of our time will be in service to Beacon House, a group dedicated to educational support and enrichment of inner city youth. We will spend time relating our respective experiences, learning about our many differences, and living into the common aspects of life we share. We will also have a great opportunity to share some time with each other, learning to grow as a community of faith and action. Questions? Please contact: Jeff Hornbeck jhornbeck@frontiernet.net, 304-876-0566 or Brandon Dennison bmdherdfan@aol.com, 304-268-6307.

CHURCH 101

Orientation to SPC led Pastor Tremba and church Elders. All welcome including those who are considering membership in this congregation or interested in deepening their discipleship. **Saturdays, January 19, 26 and February 2**, 9:30-11:00 a.m. Fellowship Hall. First three sessions: stories about SPC, our meeting house, practices, polity and people. Later sessions (monthly dates to be determined) will include discussion of *The Heart of Christianity* by Marcus Borg. Get book from table in Fellowship Hall or in office. Reading prior to sessions is recommended but not required.

SR. YOUTH SEMINAR (9th–12th Grade)

Led by Brandon Dennison, **Sundays**, 4:30–5:30 p.m. Text: *The Heart of Christianity* by Marcus Borg. Get the book in the SPC office. **January 13** (Chapter 1), **January 20** (Chapter 2), **January 27** (Chapter 3). Reading the chapters prior to the seminar is recommended, but not required.

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. CHOIR FESTIVAL

Sunday, January 27 at 4:00 p.m. at Asbury United Methodist Church will feature music from our various town churches, including our very own Dr. Georgiann Toole and Choir, plus inspirational readings from Dr. King's speeches and sermons.

Spiritual Formation...

NEW YEAR REFLECTION AND PRAYER

Something about a new year always inspires me to clean and clear out, getting rid of old stuff I no longer use or need, shining up all the things that have grown dirty or dull, rediscovering things lost or forgotten, and making plans and space for the new. As we plow through closets, cupboards and bookshelves, this is also an opportune time to take stock of our personal wellbeing, peering into our spiritual closets, rousting out demons posing as dust bunnies and listening deeply for new invitations that may be unfolding quietly in our hearts.

You might prayerfully consider Jesus' question: what are you looking for (John 1:38)? Let those words unfold deep within you. What images, ideas, or words float into your consciousness? Allow yourself to re-discover and name some of your deepest desires. Place them alongside your current life situation. How do they compare? In what ways does your life journey at this time draw you closer toward your deepest desires? How does it draw you away? What habits, practices, attitudes and other aspects of everyday life might you need to release at this time? What new things, habits, attitudes and practices might you need to claim? Where do you sense God's invitation unfolding in your life? Pause. Ask. Notice. Claim. Release. Give thanks. And pray.

—Ethel Hornbeck

Parish Assistant for Spiritual Formation

God, in this new year,
I am ready for you to create me anew.
I step out of the past into this new moment.
All of my accomplishments I release;
all of my failures I let go.
Who I have been I honor and release.
Create me anew in this year,
this day, this moment.
Speak your Word,
and bring me into Being.
Let me be your new creation
and it will be good. Amen

—Steve Garnaas-Holmes

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Mark Your Calendars...

QUESTION: Where in the world is the SPC defibrillator? Lucy Gay will conduct defibrillator training on **Sunday, January 20** at 9:45 and 12 noon. Everyone (especially ushers) is urged to attend.

ANSWER: The defib is in the organ pit in a red fabric case.

2008 BUDGET MEETING All SPC members are welcome to attend, ask questions and make comments about the proposed budget when the Session meets **Saturday, January 12** at 9:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

PERFORMANCE BY ALEXANDER CAVALLI in "Paul, Face to Face," **Friday, January 18** at 7:30 p.m. at Trinity Episcopal Church, sponsored by the Shepherdstown Ministerial Association. Dr. Cavalli's performances are "for everyone who loves the New Testament and the life and teachings of Jesus Christ," but they are not suggested for children. Admission is free. However, contributions are encouraged for this special show. Learn more at www.biblicalvoices.com.

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE **February 6**, 7:30 p.m.

LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS and program, "Breaking the Silence—Embracing Our Mortality with Wisdom and Grace." Supper at 5:30 p.m.; program at 6:45 p.m. **Sundays, February 10, 17, 24, and March 2.** (Snow date March 9.)

Monthly Activities...

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S CIRCLE **January 10**, 10:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. All women of the church are invited to attend the annual soup and salad luncheon.

FIRST THINGS FIRST SUNDAY Coins for relief of hunger and non-perishables for JCCM (see list under **Notices: JCCM**). **Next: February 3.**

TAIZE SERVICE First Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m. in the sanctuary. A Service of Prayer in song, silence and candlelight. (Ash Wednesday Service replaces Taize Service in February.)

SUPPER GROUP TGIF, **Friday, January 18**, 6:30 p.m. at Becky Phipps, 304-876-0298.

ROUNDTABLE WITH ETHEL HORNBECK
Conversation and reflection with and around scripture, poetry and other selected texts. Third Thursdays, 10:00–11:00 a.m. in the balcony. **Next: January 17.**

MEN'S BREAKFAST Third Saturdays at 7:30 a.m. discussion from 8:00–9:00 a.m. **Next: January 19.**

CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER Third Sundays, balcony, 7:00–7:30 p.m. **Next: January 20.**

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: February 2.**

Notices...

2008 IRISH SUMMER INSTITUTE 32 people from all across the US have already signed up for the 2008 Irish Summer Institute, **August 18–31.** SPC members who are interested in participating in this outstanding travel seminar need to contact Director Jim Macdonell, 304-274-1390 or jim.nancymac@verizon.net ASAP so that he can hold a place open for you. (We especially need a woman who would be willing to room with a wonderful lady from Alaska, who was Betty Egan's roommate on the 2006 Institute.)

JCCM (Jefferson County Community Ministries) Food Pantry current needs: grape jelly, bar soap, cereal, instant coffee, toothpaste, and toothbrushes. Ongoing needs: hot chocolate mix, dish detergent, toilet paper, clean baby food jars, plastic tubs with lids, clean medium-size jars with lids, Ziploc sandwich bags. Collection at SPC on first Sundays. **Next: February 3.**

USHERS ARE NEEDED for the third Sunday of each month for the 8:30 service. You must be at church by 8 a.m. The investment of time that it takes to "ush" is small but the service to our church is great. If you would like to join the SPC "UsherCorps," contact Becky Phipps at 304-876-0298 or bph@frontiernet.net.

ADULT CHOIR Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m. New voices are always welcome. Join us as we begin our Lenten music. See or contact Georgiann Toole 301-432-6964, or Georgiann1@aol.com.

GOOD NEWS MOUNTAINEER GARAGE
This non-profit organization provides cars to people in need. Donated cars and trucks are repaired and matched with low-income families who participate in the West Virginia Works program. The purpose is to provide reliable transportation for getting to work or work-training programs. West Virginians can apply their donations to state as well as federal income tax returns. Contact 1-866-GIVECAR or www.goodnewsmountaineergarage.com for additional information. This innovative program is one of only four in the U.S. that helps families become self-sufficient—and the need is great.

2008 OFFERTORY ENVELOPES are available in the Fellowship Hall. Please check with the office if yours is missing. Also, if you haven't returned your 2008 pledge form, please do so as soon as possible.

PCUSA MISSION YEARBOOK for 2008 is available in the Fellowship Hall. \$5 each; pay what you can.

SPC FORUM SPEAKER (2006) Ann Baltzer's pictorial journal *Palestine: A Jewish American Woman in the Occupied Territories* is available in the Fellowship Hall. \$15; pay what you can.

CHILDCARE can usually be provided for church programs. Notify the church office at least seven days prior and include names and ages of children and the program event.

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

From the Homily of 12/2/2007: Isaiah 2:4 *And He will judge between the nations, And will render decisions for many peoples; And they will beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not lift up sword against nation, And never again will they learn war.*

Could this prophesy be fulfilled today? It would be argued that it would be cheaper to make new plowshares than to convert the old swords, and could the process be accomplished by using renewable energy? Also, with no-till planting (the seeds are injected into the soil to prevent erosion, plus it reduces the cost of planting)—who needs plowshares? The WVU Experimental Farm at Kearneysville has developed fruit trees that only grow to a height of six feet—who needs pruning hooks?

—Jim Price

Congratulations...

To Shauna & Richard Nicodermis on the birth of their daughter Wenonah Noel. Shauna is the daughter of Roy and Pat Dick.

In Our Prayers...

Wanni Martin • Ada Hatchett • Anderson and Jan Clark • Barkley Sutherland • Pat Dick's friend Trish Thomas and her brother-in-law Richard Wood • Mike Hasty • Paul Kradle's niece Maribeth Kradle • Karen Kinney's mother • Pat Kercheval • Pam Steven's mother

Financial Corner...

GENERAL FUND through December 31 Expected: \$256,000. Actual giving: \$265,440. **Building Fund** pledged for 2007: \$30,000. Submitted to date: \$35,524.

NEXT NEWSLETTER: February 2008. Announcements, articles or news on our members? Contact the office, 304-876-6466 or <office@spcworks.org> Copy deadline **January 23.**

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

Visit www.spcworks.org on a regular basis for all the latest news, podcasts, calendar events and much more.