

## HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

### PALM/PASSION SUNDAY (March 16).

Solemn reading of the Passion of Christ from the Gospel According to Matthew.

### MAUNDY THURSDAY (March 20)

Prayer in song and silence. Communion around the table in the sanctuary, 7:30 p.m.

Prayer Vigil to follow from 9:00 p.m. through Good Friday 3 p.m.

(Note: Our Prayer Vigil is extended through 3 p.m. because there is no SMA community service.)

### EASTER SUNDAY (March 23)

Informal sunrise service at Rumsey Monument Park, 6:45 a.m.

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' home. 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** through PCUSA supports ministries of disaster response, refugee assistance and resettlement, and community development that help people find safe refuge, start new lives, and work together to strengthen their families and communities.

### ***BREAKING THE SILENCE—EMBRACING OUR MORTALITY WITH WISDOM AND GRACE***

Woven into the fabric of SPC is the aim to address congregational needs that are encompassed in these words: "In Life and in Death—We Belong to God." The final Lenten Soup Supper Program is **Sunday, March 2** (snow date March 9). Soup and bread are at 5:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall followed by the program in the Sanctuary from 6:30 to 7:15 p.m. Several resource people will briefly address Estate Planning, Palliative and Hospice Care, Funeral Considerations, and Church Funeral/Memorial Services. Come to this session even if you have not been able to come to the others.

A follow-up workshop with these speakers is on **Saturday, March 29**, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall to answer specific questions and provide detailed information. A workbook will be provided to use in conducting discussions and making plans with your family and friends.

—Jack Young

**BIBLE STUDY** *Jesus and Women* led by Karen Kinney, a student in the Masters of Arts in Christian Education at Union Theological Seminary (Richmond, VA), **Wednesdays, February 27, March 12 & 19**, 7:30-8:45 p.m., Fellowship Hall. Learn about faith, discipleship and mission by experiencing anew three gospel stories of women's encounters with Jesus: the Canaanite woman, Martha and Mary, and the Samaritan woman at the well. A primary resource is Frances Taylor Gench's *Back to the Well: Women's Encounters with Jesus in the Gospels*. Books \$15. Pay what you can.

**CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST** in the Fellowship Hall after each Sunday morning service in Lent. Your donation will support our youth mission study trip to Arizona this summer.

*Daylight Savings Time begins Sunday, March 9. Spring forward one hour.*

## Spiritual Formation...

**EMBRACING LIFE** Embracing our mortality is important, not just for financial, legal, and other practical reasons, but also for our emotional and spiritual health and that of our children and friends. It is a process, and something that we can actually *practice*, as all deep faith traditions suggest in various ways and by various means.

Ancient Christian tradition advised the practice of “keeping death before you daily” as a way of *practicing* proper perspective and even gratitude—we accord things far greater value and reverence when we recognize them as finite. Ignatius of Loyola invited people to rehearse major life decisions from the perspective of one’s deathbed. It may be helpful, just once in a while, to entertain the question: If today were your last day on earth, what would you celebrate? What would you regret, wish you had done differently, want to do over...?

Embracing mortality is really another way of talking about a fuller embrace of life.

Writes the poet Mary Oliver:

*When it’s over, I want to say: all my life*

*I was a bride married to amazement.*

*I was the bridegroom, taking the world into my arms.*

*When it is over, I don’t want to wonder*

*if I have made of my life something particular, and real.*

*I don’t want to find myself sighing and frightened,  
or full of argument.*

*I don’t want to end up simply having visited this world.*

## Yootz Corner...

**YOOTZ MISSION TRIP** The annual trip to Washington, D.C., **January 25–27**, was once again a success. A group of 12 embarked from SPC Friday night and headed to the Pilgrimage in D.C. After a quiet Friday night, we got up early and headed to Beacon House, which has an after-school program and daycare, tutoring center, as well as an adult education facility.

We then met several elementary and middle school-aged kids from Beacon House and went to a museum where we saw the plans for the memorial to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. After saying goodbye to our new friends, we headed to Emmaus services for the elderly. We split into three groups, with each group taking two houses. In each house, we performed basic cleaning and chores for the elderly client who could no longer manage to do such chores on his or her own. Back at the Pilgrimage we enjoyed a night of spaghetti, games and fellowship.

On Sunday, we went to the National Cathedral for West Virginia Day, and then headed home with our hearts full from the service, friendship and knowledge we gained from this experience.

—*Olivia Lloyd*

**WEDNESDAY NITE LIVE (WNL)** continues for 6th–9th graders through **March 19** from 5:30–7:00 p.m. Community dinner is served at 5:30, followed by karate or some type of fun movement, then by great discussions and activities. The program is about learning the stories of the Bible, and using them as a background for discussions about what goes on in students’ lives today. Also, WNL provides support, through prayer and discussion, for kids to talk about challenges in their lives. Questions? Contact Brandon Dennison [Bmdherdfan@aol.com](mailto:Bmdherdfan@aol.com) or Natasha Baihly [natashabaihly@yahoo.com](mailto:natashabaihly@yahoo.com).

**RETREAT** for all Yootz at Ezekiel’s Place. Meet at SPC **Friday, February 29**, 6 p.m. Fun, fellowship, and friendship. There will be a series of three Bible studies focused on being a good friend, the importance of who we spend time with, and Biblical models for friendship. Games, hangin’ out, and hiking. It will be great! Bring a sleeping bag and pillow, toiletries, one change of clothes, hiking boots and **your Bible**.

*We need people to drive out on Friday and pick up Saturday at 12:30.* No lunch provided Saturday; only breakfast and a light snack. Dinner provided Friday evening. Questions? Contact Brandon, [bmdherdfan@aol.com](mailto:bmdherdfan@aol.com).

## Mark Your Calendars...

**METROPOLITAN OPERA SINGER** Ross Crolius (son of Jean Ehman) presents a benefit concert at SPC on **Sunday, April 13** at 4:00 p.m. Free admission.

**EARTHFEST Sunday, April 20** at SPC at 7:00 p.m. Songs, prayers, and Eucharist to inspire care of the wondrous web of life!

**DAVID LAMOTT IN CONCERT** at SPC **Friday, May 2, 7:30 p.m.** Details forthcoming.

**AFRICA FORUM: CHALLENGES AND HOPE** **March 28 and 29**, 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m., Robert C. Byrd Center for Legislative Studies, Shepherd University. The Forum aims to bring together people from the tri-state and Washington, DC areas to increase understanding of and engagement with development efforts in Africa. For detailed information, contact Dr. Dick Anson, 304-754-6563, or see [www.ezekielsplace.com](http://www.ezekielsplace.com).

**BENEFIT CONCERT** featuring *Patent Pending*, **Saturday, March 29**, 7:00 p.m. Arden United Methodist Church. Proceeds go to *Nothing But Nets*, the Arden United Methodist Church Volunteers in Mission and the Arden United Methodist Church Youth Fellowship. *Nothing But Nets* is a global, grassroots campaign to save lives by preventing malaria. Tickets are \$10. For more information and directions, call 304-267-6165.

**MEDITATIVE ARTS RETREAT** at Rolling Ridge. *The Art of Gratefulness*, **Friday, April 11–Sunday April 13**. In the delicate beauty of the awakening springtime forest and the sacred embrace of encircling hills and streams we will ponder how gratefulness applies to our losses, to our everyday lives, and to our relationships. Cost for the weekend is \$100. For more information, call or email Lindsay McLaughlin at 304-724-1069, [lmclaughlin@rollingridge.net](mailto:lmclaughlin@rollingridge.net).

**COMMUNITY BIBLE SCHOOL July 14–18**, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. Classes for ages 3 through grade 8. All children from Jefferson County and their friends are welcome to attend. Children will learn Bible stories, enjoy a daily snack, sing great songs and make a Bible related craft. (Note earlier week this year.)

## SPC Monthly Activities...

**FIRST THINGS FIRST SUNDAY** Coins for relief of hunger and non-perishables for JCCM (see list under **Notices: JCCM** ). **Next: March 2**.

**TAIZE SERVICE** First Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m. in the sanctuary. A Service of Prayer in song, silence and candlelight. **Next: March 5**.

**PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S CIRCLE** First Thursdays, 10:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. All women of the church are invited for Bible study and refreshments. **Next: March 6**.

**SUPPER GROUPS** Moveable Feast, **Saturday, March 8** (NOTE: second Saturday), 6:30 p.m. at Esther and Tim Murphy's, 304-876-8133; TGIF, **Friday, March 14** (NOTE: second Friday), 6:30 p.m. at Diane and Paul Kradle's, 304-876-7025.

**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: March 20**.

**MEN'S BREAKFAST** Third Saturdays. Breakfast at 7:30 a.m.; discussion from 8:00–9:00 a.m. **Next: March 15**.

**CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER** Third Sundays, balcony, 7:00–7:30 p.m. (No Contemplative Prayer in February or March) **Next: April 20**.

## Notices...

**FAMILY HEIRLOOM** Jean Ehman has lost a green glass plate used for Anderson Clark's memorial reception. Please look through your things and contact her if you have it, 304-876-3614. Becky Phipps is also missing a platter. It has a pretty border of flowers and looks sort of old which she thinks it is... a junk store special! Please let her know if it sounds familiar. 304-876-0298.

**JCCM** (Jefferson County Community Ministries) Current pantry needs: cereal (hot and cold), pancake mix, pancake syrup, grape jelly, peanut butter, tomato soup, vegetable soup, instant potatoes, regular coffee, shampoo, clean baby food jars/containers w/lids, clean mid sized jars w/lids, clean plastic and paper grocery bags.

**SHENANDOAH WOMEN'S CENTER** Toiletries needed: hair brushes, shampoo & conditioners, ethnic hair care products, hand & body lotions, tampons & sanitary pads. Items always needed: 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 next to JCCM items.

**SHEPHERDSTOWN VISITORS CENTER** needs volunteers to help at the center. Time is optional. The center has moved to 102 E. German Street (former location of the 123 Kangaroo Toy Store). Any questions, call Mary Sue Eldridge at 304-876-2337.

**HANDICAPPED PARKING UPDATE:** During the month of January, competitive bids were sought for the construction of the handicapped parking area off the alley. The low bid of \$81,743 was received from Panhandle Builders and Excavators, Inc. from Martinsburg. The Session, at the recommendation of our engineer, Dick Klein of Alpha Associates, authorized Administrator, Bill Howard, to finalize a construction agreement. The Current Building fund reserves can cover the cost of the construction, but continued contributions to the fund are vital to other ongoing building maintenance concerns. Plans and specifications for the parking area, which included five parking spaces, a concrete-reinforced brick retaining wall, asphalt paving, and extensive storm water management features, are posted in the Fellowship Hall. Work is slated to begin in March and required to be substantially complete in 90 days. If you have questions or concerns, please contact the office.

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Shepherdstown WV

SHEPHERDSTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
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Shepherdstown WV 25443  
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## Keeping up with Members...

Will Sutherland is studying electronic media, television, and radio at Marshall University. He is looking forward to graduating this May and moving back to this area. He only has three classes left! In his free time he mainly enjoys video production, writing, and outdoor activities such as hiking, mountain biking, snowboarding, and porch-sitting. Will also likes to spend time with his family and dogs, and his distant plans include building a small cabin next to his family home.

Kaitlyn Clark (daughter of Julie and Bob) will travel to Tampa in April as part of the Frederick Fusion All Star Team to participate in the Tampa Jamfest National Competitive Cheer event.

Bob Clark travels to Clermont-Ferrand, France, March 17-23, to compete in the long jump (age 50-54 group) in the Masters World Track and Field Championships.

Jerry Thomas was selected one of five finalists for WV Professor of the year! The Faculty Merit Foundation recognizes and rewards innovation and creativity among the faculties of WV's colleges and universities.

Jed Moran (Yvonne Fisher's son) was in a Hallmark Valentine's Day commercial, "Sweet Talkin' Trio."

## Thank You...

[To the Yootz and adults who went on D.C. Mission/Work Study Trip]

I'd like to thank you again for all of the help that the volunteers provided to our seniors with the home cleanings. I have received positive feedback

from the seniors who are very happy for the job well done. I would also like to thank you for the concerns that your volunteers had. I brought them up with the care plan staff and they will be dealt with accordingly. Thanks again.

—Madeline Kaplan  
Volunteer Coordinator, Emmaus Services for the Aging

Our dear, dear church family,  
We are forever grateful to have such wonderful people in our lives. We thank you so very much for the calls, cards, flowers, food, and prayers provided during Nancy's convalescence.

—With love and God bless, Nancy and Bill Wilson

## Financial Corner...

**GENERAL FUND** through February 24. Expected: \$42,308. Actual giving: \$39,139. **Building Fund** pledged for 2008: \$27,000. Submitted to date: \$3,298.

**BLANKET SUNDAY** Special offering for Church World Services blankets and tools. Total to date: \$1,662.87. Thanks to one and all very much for your care and generosity.

**NEXT NEWSLETTER: April 2008.** Announcements, articles or news on our members? Contact the office, 304-876-6466 or <office@spcworks.org>. Copy deadline **March 26**. 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.