

*FALL BACK ONE HOUR Daylight savings ends Sunday, November 1.*

### PLEDGE SUNDAY

Prayerfully consider your financial participation in the ministry of SPC for the coming year. Your signed intention is crucial so the Session can make trustworthy commitments to our staff and mission. Please return your pledge on or before **Sunday, November 8.**

### THE ENLIGHTENED HEART OF ISLAM

**Sundays, November 1–December 13** (no class November 22 or 29), 9:15 to 10:15 a.m., Classroom 1.

*“The Jesus of your spirit is within you: ask his aid, for he is a good helper.”—Rumi*

We will explore the writings of Islamic scholars and prophets, which take the form of stories, quotes and verse. We will seek to both deepen our understanding of Islam, as well as attempt to discover the universal wisdom aspects of this deep faith tradition. We will use the book *The Fragrance of Faith*. There is no need to purchase the book to participate in the class, but if you would like to read the first 28 pages free go, to [http://www.thebook.org/books\\_pdf/fragrance.pdf](http://www.thebook.org/books_pdf/fragrance.pdf).

Why should we as Christians study Islamic writers? Just like us, Muslims are children of God. Also, Islam is the second largest religion in the world with over a billion adherents. Muslims trace their lineage back to Abraham. They consider Jesus to be one of their main prophets and the teachings of Jesus comprise several chapters of the Koran.

—David Scott

**HOURLY-FOR-THE-YOUTH POTLUCK LUNCH Sunday, November 1, 12:15–1:15 p.m. for all youth grades 6–12 and their parents.** Other family members welcome. It’s very important that everyone come—we have some decisions to make that affect all and need your input. Come enjoy the fellowship and good food.

—Youth Education Committee

**SENIOR YOUTH SEMINAR** (10th–12th grade) **Sunday, November 8, 4:30 p.m.** Fellowship Hall. Dr. Suzanne Shipley will share reflections on her life story.

**STUDENT BANQUET Sunday, November 22, 5:30 p.m.** Ballroom at Shepherd University. For 9th–12th graders and their parents from the Presbyterian churches of the Eastern Panhandle. Hear from several of our young adults attending various colleges and universities. Learn how Dr. Jim Price and two other elders of our community figured out what to do in life. Listen to graduating seniors and join in blessing them. Cost: \$10 at the door. Call office 304-876-6466 by November 12 to confirm attendance.

**AN EVENING WITH JEAN EHMAN AND HAROLD SNYDER Wednesday, November 18, 7:30 p.m.** in the Fellowship Hall. Jean and Harold will each tell an abridged story about the people and events that influenced their lives.

### CONGREGATIONAL BUSINESS MEETING

**Sunday, November 22, 9:30 a.m.**

Act on the Salary Committee’s recommendation for Pastor’s Terms of Call for 2010, preceded by a brief presentation on “State of the Church” by Pastor Tremba. Also, this meeting is an opportunity for questions and comments about the church. All registered members are encouraged to attend.

### ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

**Sunday, November 22, 10:45 service**

### COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING SERVICE

Shepherdstown Presbyterian Church, **Sunday, November 22, 4:00 p.m.**  
Featuring Shepherdstown Elementary School Chorus

## Yootz Corner...

The Yootz went to the Jefferson Orchard September 27 to have dinner with the migrant workers, who are there to pick apples. When we got there, we took the food into the kitchen, and then played fútbol or soccer. We played two games. Mexicans are really, really good at playing soccer. It was hard for me to even get the ball, but at least when I did, I kicked towards the goal!

After the games, everyone went inside for group discussions, which were basically getting in a group and talking to the migrant workers. Some of us could speak a little Spanish, and some of us could speak a lot of Spanish. We had translators to help.

The workers spend six months in Florida, and six months in Michigan and West Virginia. They were picking blueberries in Michigan. Many of their families are in Mexico, and they get to talk to them on the phone. There were some women with children there, and one had a one-month-old baby.

When it was time for dinner, everyone was pretty hungry. The food was excellent. Personally, I liked the whole thing. This was my first time going, and I didn't know what to expect, but it was a blast. The migrant workers were happy that we went to see them, and I was happy that I got to meet them. Overall, I think the trip was very successful, and I definitely want to go next year.

—Kate Byrne

Check out the video of the Yootz visit with migrant workers:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nVz-3gkD8Ts>

**WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE!** through **November 18**, 5:30–7:00 p.m. Share a meal, move your body, and perhaps experience a bit of spiritual growth.

**CHRISTMAS SHOPPING** **Sunday, November 15**, Noon–4:00 p.m. Senior youth Christmas shopping for JCCM (Jefferson County Community Ministries) needy families. Bring a bag lunch. Meet in youth room in church basement.

**WORK DAY** **Sunday, November 15**, 12 noon–4:30 p.m. Junior youth Work Day for people in our church community. Bring a bag lunch, work gloves, rakes and wear warm clothes!

If you have questions or need more information on Yootz activities, contact Natasha Baihly, [natashabaihly@yahoo.com](mailto:natashabaihly@yahoo.com).

## Mark Your Calendars...

**NEW MEMBERS CLASS** Church 101, **Sundays** through **November 15** at 9:15 a.m. Childcare provided in nursery.

*Pastures of Plenty, Harvest of Shame* **Forum, Thursday, November 12**, 7:00–9:00 p.m., Robert C. Byrd

Center for Legislative Studies Auditorium, Shepherd University features the film, *Viva La Causa*, produced by the Immigrant Justice Project of the Southern Poverty Law Center. A lecture follows, *From Field to Courthouse: Lessons from Litigating on Behalf of Migrant and Seasonal Agricultural Workers*, presented by Naomi Tsu, Staff Attorney with the Immigrant Justice Project of the Southern Poverty Law Center.

The Forum is planned and co-sponsored by Shepherd University, Ezekiels Place, St Joseph Catholic Church in Martinsburg, and SPC. It is part of SPC's educational initiative in its local Hispanic Outreach Ministry. A goal of the planning group is to encourage university students and faculty, members of local faith communities, members of local Hispanic communities, and other interested persons to learn together important lessons about immigrant justice within the North American context.

For more details, flyers are in the Fellowship Hall or call Verle Headings, 304-725-2312.

## SPC Monthly Activities...

**FIRST THINGS FIRST SUNDAY** Coins for relief of hunger, and items for JCCM, Shenandoah Women's Center and the Hispanic Mission (see lists under **Mission**). **Next: Nov. 1.**

**EVENING PRAYER** In the way of Taizé. First Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m. in the sanctuary. A Service of Prayer in song, silence and candlelight. **Next: Nov. 4.**

**WOMEN'S CIRCLE** First Thursdays, 10:00 a.m., Fellowship Hall. Bible study book is titled *Joshua: A Journey of Faith*. All women of the church are welcome. **Next: Nov. 5.**

**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 sanctuary. (no meeting in November) **Next: Dec. 17.**

**MEN'S BREAKFAST** Third Saturdays. Breakfast at 7:30 a.m. Discussion, 8:00–9:00 a.m. **Next: Nov. 21.**

**CONTEMPLATIVE AND CENTERING PRAYER** Third Sundays, balcony, 7:00 p.m. **Next: Nov. 15.**

**SHEPHERD PRESBYTERIAN CONNECTIONS** with college students. Includes dinner and discussion with Pastor Tremba and Ethel Hornbeck. Second and fourth **Tuesdays** at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. **Next: November 10** (only one this month).

### SUPPER GROUPS

**TGIF, Friday, November 13**, 6:30 p.m. hosted by Chris Duewel & Ed Zahniser, 304-876-2442.

Moveable Feast, **Saturday, November 14**, 6:30 p.m. hosted by Sue & Jim Barney, 304-262-9788.

## Notices...

**CAMPUS MINISTRY** Thanks to Jerry Thomas's six years of spade work with the Westminster Foundation, Russ Porter's presentation to the Foundation board on October 12, and Ethel's impressive resumé, the Foundation awarded SPC a grant of \$5000 for 2010 (and in principle for two additional years).

Eastern Panhandle Mission Community (15 Presbyterian churches) also approved a \$600 contribution to our campus ministry for materials and/or salary support for this year and tacitly for years to come.

**CLOTHES IN STAIRWAY NEAR NURSERY** Please do not bring any more clothes or shoes at this time other than when specific requests are made. We are not set up to manage them and the stairway is overflowing. You may take clothes directly to the Martinsburg Rescue Mission.

**SHEPHERDSTOWN VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT** Apple Butter Festival, **Saturday October 31**. Volunteers needed this week to help prepare apples. Call 304-876-6038 or 304-876-6686.

**PAPER RECYCLING** 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: Nov. 7.**

**JOHN BROWN'S BODY** Rosemarie Coy is performing in the play adapted from the epic poem by Stephen Vincent Benet. Performances at Camp Hill United Methodist Church, Harpers Ferry and St. Agnes Catholic Church Chapel, Shepherdstown. Tickets are \$10. For show times and tickets, or call 304-535-2030 or go to [www.HistoricHarpersFerry.com](http://www.HistoricHarpersFerry.com).

**ANTIETAM WOMEN'S ENSEMBLE** presents "Mary's Voice," music inspired by Mary's story of personal anticipation of the birth of the baby Jesus. The concert at St. Agnes Catholic Church, Shepherdstown is **Saturday, November 21** at 8:00 p.m. It includes *Ceremony of Carols* by Benjamin Britten, Michael Haydn's *Magnificat*, and four different variations of *Ave Maria*. SPC members involved are: Georgiann Toole, director; Diane Holliman, pianist; and Rosemarie Coy, Elaine Hurd, Suellen Myers, and Rie Wilson, singers. A \$10 donation is requested and a portion of the proceeds will benefit the Shenandoah Women's Center. Join us for music that is dramatic, reflective, and inspiring!

### FORGIVENESS

Recently, I attended a discussion group at SPC about the documentary film *The Power of Forgiveness*, by Martin Doblmeier. We met for four weeks between Sunday services with Ethel Hornbeck moderating.

One segment dealt with 9-11. How can we forgive those who perpetrated this act of terror? Do we even want to forgive them? A minister of a church near the

World Trade Center wants to build a "Garden of Forgiveness" near ground zero, and has received much opposition. Was our response to the attack right? To seek revenge on those who did this? How could we even conceive of forgiveness?

Another segment concerned a college professor whose mother was brutally beaten and killed in her home in a robbery gone wrong. This son was able to forgive the man who murdered his mother, and now teaches a college course on forgiveness.

I learned that forgiveness is not easy, instantaneous, or cheap. It is more like a life practice, a way of life. It must be embodied. Forgiveness arises out of compassion, without which there could be no forgiveness. And to be compassionate, one has to "walk in another's shoes"—to see them as a Child of God. Tough work in a world where it's easier to take revenge, to hate those who hurt us.

All the other segments—Thich Nhat Hanh, Elie Wiesel, the Amish, Northern Ireland, Israel/Palestine—were heart-wrenching stories of how some courageous people are able to forgive and break the cycle of revenge and violence that is most often our response to terrible events.

So come to the next forum or discussion group! They're really good and cheap—all you have to pay is attention.  
—Greg Lloyd

Ethel provided additional resources:

- *Embodying Forgiveness: A Theological Analysis* by theologian L. Gregory Jones treats forgiveness using a variety of sources, including Simon Wiesenthal's *The Sunflower*, Flannery O'Connor's short stories, Toni Morrison's *Beloved*, and Clint Eastwood's movie *Unforgiven*.
- *The Sunflower: On the Possibilities and Limits of Forgiveness* by Simon Wiesenthal. The Dalai Lama, Harry Wu, Primo Levi, and others who have witnessed genocide and human tyranny.
- *The Power of Forgiveness: Based on a Film by Martin Doblmeier* by Kenneth Briggs. Companion book to the film that we viewed, the book also points in a direction of its own: probing religious meanings of the process.

Online resources to explore:

- [www.thepowerofforgiveness.com](http://www.thepowerofforgiveness.com)—see especially "resources" section
- [www.spiritualityandpractice.com](http://www.spiritualityandpractice.com)—see forgiveness under "practices" and explore many other practices as well!

**IN REMEMBRANCE OF WANNI MARTIN**, a favorite saying (and her attitude toward life):

*Life is not a journey to the grave with the intention of arriving safely in one pretty and well preserved piece but to slide across the finish line broadside, thoroughly used up, worn out, leaking oil, shouting...GERONIMO!*

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## Mission...

*Place items for these three missions in the plastic containers at the bottom of stairs on the way to the nursery:*

**JCCM** (Jefferson County Community Ministries) Current pantry needs: toothpaste, toothbrushes, canned fruit, canned meat, canned soups, jelly, pancake syrup, instant coffee, crackers, peanut butter, rice, apple sauce, *plus* canned yams and cranberry sauce for the holidays. SPC contact: Sally Fitzgerald, 304-725-3795.

**SHENANDOAH WOMEN'S CENTER (SWC)** made a special clothing request for women who have been raped and must leave their clothing for evidence. SWC provides kits, which include *new* sweat suits, underwear, and flip flops or slippers. Purchases from a dollar store are fine. *Please do NOT bring any other clothing at this time. SWC has no room for storage.* SPC contact: Rie Wilson, 304-876-6591.

**HISPANIC MISSION FOOD OUTREACH** Most requested items include: rice; dry (not canned) pinto beans, potatoes, salt, sugar, cooking oil, and coffee. SPC contact: Jeff Hornbeck, 304-876-0566.

## Thank You...

I am writing this on October 9. Six weeks ago today I underwent quadruple heart bypass surgery. My recovery has been nothing short of miraculous. Twenty-eight days post-op my surgeon took off all restrictions. I want to thank those who offered prayers, phone calls, cards, food, and encouragement. I am recuperating at the home of Linda Kelso in Martinsburg without whose TLC I may not be writing this today. I am happily returning the neck cross to Randy for future use. I genuinely felt the power of my church family.

—Jim Price

## Financial Corner...

**GENERAL FUND** through October 25, 2009. Expected to date: \$234,433. Actual giving: \$209,457. Building Fund pledged for 2009: \$34,400. Submitted to date: \$26,718.

**NEXT NEWSLETTER: December 2009.** Announcements, articles or news of our members? Contact the office, 304-876-6466 or <office@spcworks.org>. Copy deadline **November 25**.

*VISIT [www.spcworks.org](http://www.spcworks.org) on a regular basis for the latest news, podcasts (new), calendar events and much more.*

**WEATHER-RELATED CANCELLATIONS** Check [www.spcworks.org](http://www.spcworks.org) or call the church 304-876-6466 for a message.

### LOOKING FORWARD TO ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS

Joy Gift Potluck Dinner  
**Sunday, December 13**, 5:30-7:30 p.m.  
Shepherdstown Fire Hall.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Services  
5:00 p.m. (Especially for children)  
8:00 p.m. (Choirs and homily)  
11:00 p.m. (Carol sing and communion)

Children's Christmas Pageant  
**Sunday, December 27**

One Service Only (10:45 a.m.)  
**December 27 and January 3**