

PARISH ANNUAL CELEBRATION
Sunday, September 13, 9:30-10:15 a.m.

Highlights of the past and coming year. Hear from our women about the Presbyterian Women's Gathering in Louisville this past July and from our youth about their mission in Mingo County with Brandon in June. Honor a long-time, faithful volunteer. Plus, election of elders and deacons. Childcare will be available.

This will be a time of celebration, not business as usual. All are encouraged to attend.

SHEPHERD PRESBYTERIAN CONNECTIONS

I am very excited to be part of this new adventure—or to be more accurate, the next phase of the adventure that Brandon and Randy began last year. I am also grateful for those two for helping me see possibilities that I never could have dreamed of on my own.

We're calling this new venture Shepherd Presbyterian Connections. We're connecting—or, more specifically, we as community are making space for these young adults to connect not just with us, but more importantly with one another. Its the kind of space, I hope, where people can also connect more deeply with their own inner lives—questions, struggles, and desires—the inner reality that we all lose touch with if all we ever do is rush from one assignment to the next. It's in these deep connections with others and self that I believe we also all connect with the Holy—that old "true communion with God and true community with others."

The core of this connecting will happen around the table at our twice monthly dinners, on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month, and we are also exploring lots of other ideas for connecting on campus and off.

For our college age folk, the invitation is: come check it out on Tuesday at 6. Share a meal, open conversation, and some open listening with one another and to the Spirit in our midst. Our invitation includes ALL people of college age, whether Shepherd students or not. For the rest of you, the

invitation is to please consider how you might be called to participate in this ministry.

As one with a college-age daughter, I can assure you that home cooking is one of the greatest gifts, and most powerful expressions of presence that we can offer. If you're interested in doing some cooking, see the announcement under **Notices** on page 2. If you have other ideas, comments or questions, please let me know.

Keep in mind that this connection goes both ways in the sense that whatever we can offer these young, energetic, imaginative, joy-filled human beings, comes back to us, as a community, a hundred-fold. Just think how much our community life has been enriched and changed forever by the presence of Brandon, and Kari and so many others who have been and are with us in less public roles. When they are with us, we are more whole.

Above all I invite everyone to join with me and Randy and Brandon and others in praying for this new ministry. Let's begin now with these words:

Eternal God, you call us to ventures of which we cannot see the ending by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; in the Spirit of your Love we pray. Amen.

—Ethel Hornbeck
Parish Assistant for Spiritual Formation

THE POWER OF FORGIVENESS

Come join in reflection and discussion of this key Christian practice. We will view segments of the documentary film, *The Power of Forgiveness* by Martin Doblmeier. The film looks at the healing power of forgiveness with segments on the Amish, genocide, responses to 911, the peace process in Northern Ireland, and more. **September 20–October 18** between services (9:30–10:30) in Classroom 1. Childcare provided.

THE GATHERING

More than 2,500 women attended Presbyterian Women's Churchwide Gathering in Louisville, July 11–15. SPC sent our own "Sallye's Sisters," Barbara Kaplin, Lucy Gay, Elaine Hurd, Charlotte Baker-Shenk and Christine Librizzi to represent our church and synod. They dedicated their experience to their PW sister, Sallye Price.

The Gathering's theme God Will Do Wonders Among Us was taken from the book of Joshua and is the topic of this year's PW bible study. Exploring this theme, we attended workshops, celebrated worship, received inspiration from plenary speakers and enjoyed fellowship with sisters in faith from around the world. We saw the election of a leadership team with the first Latin American woman Marta Rodríguez serving as moderator. All of this was richly conveyed with stunning mosaics and music.

Building on the Gathering's theme, the plenary sessions and workshops focused on justice, advocacy and mission. We addressed immigration, human trafficking, sex tourism, child exploitation, race relations, domestic violence, environmental degradation and advocacy for the economically and/or politically disenfranchised.

For Sallye's Sisters, the Gathering was a call to action to get involved in bringing peace, justice and love to all of God's people throughout our global community. We gratefully thank SPC for supporting us financially and spiritually. Through God's grace, we hope to share our experiences, insights and renewed commitment to the mission of PW with you in the coming months.

— Christine Librizzi

(Note: Sallye's Sisters will share more of their experience at the Parish Annual Celebration Sept. 13, at 9:30.)

Yootz Corner..

For youth grades 6 through 12:

RAFTING AND/OR KAYAKING TRIP Saturday, September 12.

MIGRANT WORKER PICNIC AND SOCCER Sunday, September 27, meet at SPC at 3 p.m., return by 7 p.m.

For youth grades 6 through 9:

WEDNESDAY NITE LIVE! Starting **September 16** through **November 18**, 5:30–7:00 p.m. Share a meal, some physical movement, and a spiritual growth experience.

If you have questions or need more information on any of the youth activities, contact Natasha Baihly, natashabaihly@yahoo.com.

Mark Your Calendars...

SUNDAY STUDIO will be starting off the new year on **September 13**. After a very successful three-year rotation of stories, we have completed *The Family Story Bible*. Sunday Studio children will start this fall with Genesis and learn the Bible stories using hands-on activities and interactive methods. Please check our bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall for monthly stories and updates.

Anyone can help shape the lives and faith of our children. Please consider giving just one Sunday a month. For teaching contact Wendy Ransom at wransom@ymail.com or Karen Waugh at lkwaugh@comcast.net.

SPC Monthly Activities...

FIRST THINGS FIRST SUNDAY Coins for relief of hunger, and non-perishables for JCCM, Shenandoah Women's Center and the Hispanic Mission (see lists under **Mission**). **Next: September 6.**

TAIZÉ SERVICE First Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m. in the sanctuary. A Service of Prayer in song, silence and candlelight. **Next: September 2.**

WOMEN'S CIRCLE First Thursdays, 10:00 a.m., Fellowship Hall. This month, however, they are meeting second Thursday, **September 10**. Bible study is titled *Joshua: A Journey of Faith*. Pick up your copy in the church office. All women of the church are welcome to join us.

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: September 17.**

MEN'S BREAKFAST Third Saturdays. Breakfast at 7:30 a.m. Discussion, 8:00–9:00 a.m. **Next: September 19.**

CONTEMPLATIVE AND CENTERING PRAYER (see article on next page), Third Sundays, balcony, 7:00 p.m. **Next: September 20.**

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: September 8 and 22.**

SUPPER GROUPS

Moveable Feast, **Saturday, September 12**, 6:30 p.m. hosted by Sharon and Al Henderson, 304-262-9467.

TGIF, **Saturday, September 19**, 3:00 p.m. grape stomping; dinner 6:00 p.m. (note change in normal day and time) hosted by Pete and Chris Madeo, 301-791-3634.

Notices...

COLLEGE STUDENT DINNERS We need simple, tasty homemade meals (for about 10 people) to accompany their discussions. Please contact me at 304-876-2157 or makave@frontiernet.net if you can provide one or two meals this semester. Dinners will be held the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of every month beginning at 6 p.m. You don't need to stay and serve the students. Just drop the meal off in the kitchen before 6 p.m. If you have any questions, please feel free to give me a call. Thanks for your help.

—*Mary Ann Kave*

THINKING OF SINGING WITH THE CHOIR?

Now is a great time to join! Rehearsals resume **Tuesday, Sept. 1**, 7:30 p.m. and will be back at the 10:45 service starting Sept. 13. Contact Director Georgiann Toole at 301-432-6964 or Georgiann1@aol.com.

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: September 5.**

WANTED: A TYPEWRITER Friends, if you have a retired typewriter that wouldn't mind coming out of retirement, my daughter Cheri would love to put it to work, and she'd give it a good home. Contact Rosemarie Coy at 304-876-6262 or rmrcoy@frontiernet.net.

NEED SOME HELP? Charlie Glenn is 17, extremely reliable and very strong. He can move heavy things, stack wood, mow, rake, weed, walk dogs, feed cats, get your mail, etc. Call 304-876-3078 or email wvheidi@yahoo.com.

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) The need has increased greatly. Many hungry families. Current pantry needs: pancake mix, pancake syrup, jelly, canned fruit, canned meat & tuna, pork & beans, pasta, toilet paper, shampoo, spaghetti sauce, rice, hamburger and tuna helper, flour, sugar, salt, soup, cereal (hot and cold), juice. SPC contact: Sally Fitzgerald, 304-725-3795.

SHENANDOAH WOMEN'S CENTER Paper products: towels, toilet paper, boxes of tissues, plates, cups, napkins. School supplies: #2 pencils, loose notebook paper, crayons, glue sticks, colored pencils, hand wipes, small bottles of hand sanitizer. 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.

*Don't let your worries get the best of you.
Remember, Moses started out as a basket case.*

CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER

"We may think of prayer as thoughts or feelings expressed in words. But this is only one expression. In the Christian tradition Contemplative Prayer is considered to be the pure gift of God. It is the opening of mind and heart—our whole being—to God, the Ultimate Mystery, beyond thoughts, words, and emotions. Through grace we open our awareness of God whom we know by faith is within us, closer than breathing, closer than thinking, closer than choosing—closer than consciousness itself.

Centering Prayer is a method designed to facilitate the development of Contemplative Prayer by preparing our faculties to receive this gift. It is an attempt to present the teaching of earlier times in an updated form. Centering Prayer is not meant to replace other kinds of prayer; rather it casts a new light and depth of meaning on them. It is at the same time a relationship with God and a discipline to foster that relationship. This method of prayer is a movement beyond conversation with Christ to communion with Him."

Source: *Contemplative Outreach*

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Keeping up with Members and Friends...

BRANDON DENNISON (a note from his trip to Nepal) Nepal is AMAZING!!! So far, I've hiked in the hills, danced in the rain traditional Nepali style, whitewater rafted, rode through a canyon on top of a bus (pretty scary actually but awesome), rode an elephant, saw rhinos, swam with an elephant and on and on. After this intense first week I settled into my project in the small village of Rompur where the slow pace of village life has been a blessing beyond words for me.

I work up a good sweat every day in the gardens of the conservation center and sometimes play with the children at the orphanage next door in the afternoons. I taught them Country Roads yesterday! I've thought a lot about my last Sunday with SPC and how beautiful it was. I love you all so much. The letters the youth wrote have gone everywhere with me! They meant a lot, truly. In the peace and wildness of Nepal I'm feeling very close to God. God's love and power and peace are what we should always seek first and try to spread. Nepal has reminded me in a profound way of this. Indeed, I see God everywhere here: in eyes of the children, in the mighty Himalayas, or just in the smile of a villager. I see God in the garden and in the seedlings that will feed the village and reforest the valley. May you all see God in your world!

PS: THANK YOU SSSSSSSOOOOO much for your love offering. It has helped pay for many of my unplanned adventures here!

Brandon's new address in graduate school: 2379 South Brandon Ct., Bloomington IN 47401

CONGRATULATIONS to Kari Edge and Joanna Moomaw, members of the Shepherd University Chapter (Eta Tau) of Sigma Alpha Iota, the national professional music service organization for women. They

were awarded the organization's highest honor, the National Collegiate Chapter Achievement Award for 2009. The contributions are too numerous to mention here. Ask Kari or Joanna about them!

Thank You...

Community Bible School July 20–24 concluded with a service at the Lutheran Church. Here, \$213 and 99 food items were presented to the Community Ministries food pantry; \$148.50 was presented to the Shenandoah Women's Shelter. Ten books were given to the Shepherdstown Public Library in the memory of Joan Snipes, a long-time organizer of Community Bible School. Helpers from the community churches worked together to teach 77 children the Lord's Prayer. Plus, we had loads of fellowship and fun.

Our SPC helpers included: Sara Carley-Peña, Casey McDonald, Aaron Murdock, Addison Murdock, William Ransom, Suzanne Swartz, Becky McDonald, and Rie Wilson.

Many, many thanks to them and everyone who contributed to make CBS possible.

— Anne Barrat

Financial Corner...

GENERAL FUND through August 30. Expected to date: \$190,817. Actual giving: \$169,548. Building Fund pledged for 2009: \$34,400. Submitted to date: \$20,246.

NEXT NEWSLETTER: October 2009. Announcements, articles or news of our members? Contact the office, 304-876-6466 or <office@spcworks.org>. Copy deadline **September 23.**

VISIT www.spcworks.org on a regular basis for the latest news, podcasts (new), calendar events and much more.