



# CrossRoads

Springfield Presbyterian Church

April 2019



**Palm Sunday**

**April 14 10:30 am**



**Maundy Thursday**

**April 18 7:30 pm**



**EASTER SUNDAY**

**April 21 10:30 am**

## PLANT SALE

Are you going to plant flowers this spring? Why of course you are! This year we are again delighted to partner with Buppert's who will give the church 15% of any purchase you make using our flyer. Dates for this opportunity will be from late April through Mother's Day. Watch for flyers at church at the end of April and dream about what flowers and veggies you're going to plant!

Saturday, **April 6** from 9-11 am, bring your gloves and tools to help freshen up around our buildings after a long winter. Flower beds need to be weeded before mulching, bushes trimmed, and downed tree branches removed before mowing season begins. Carl Anderson will have some equipment, and he usually has coffee made before we even get there! Please join us.



**April 6**

**9:00-11:00 am**

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# Pastor's Page

Grace and Peace to you, in the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ!

## The Hushed "H" Word

When I am relieved or excited about something, I have the propensity to say the word, 'Hallelujah.' In Hebrew, 'Hallelu' means 'Praise' and 'jah' is a shortened name for God. It is an imperative – 'Praise God!'

Yet, I remember in my first year of seminary uttering 'Hallelujah' about a Hebrew exam being delayed a week during the time of Lent and all of my colleagues looked at me and said, 'shhhhhh.' I looked dismayed and confused, and asked why they weren't all excited about more time to study – what was wrong with these people? Seeing my face, one of them remarked, "Becca, you can't say the 'H' word during Lent."

I asked why? Why couldn't I be relieved, why could I not say 'Praise God' – if anything, shouldn't that be encouraged? It was explained to me that since the days of Lent, starting as early as the middle ages, people would refrain from saying 'Hallelujah.' Lent is a time of penitence, of admitting our sin in profound ways, of acknowledging the road to the cross, and the ways in which, through our own actions, we have buried our praise to God.

I still find it a bit strange to hush the 'h' word, but I think fasting from it for forty days makes the 'Hallelujah' all that much more meaningful and brighter on Easter morning. Easter is the resurrection, it is a sign of new life and a new way of being, and if there was anytime in the Christian calendar to shout a relieved and enthusiastic 'Hallelujah' – it should be Easter morning.

This month we live in the darkness of Lent and on April 21<sup>st</sup>, we will be able to say and sing with the light of the world resurrected for us – 'Hallelujah'. Let yourself be hushed, just for now, knowing that on that bright morning, when we feel joy upon joy and blessing upon blessing, we get to shout a relieved, enthusiastic, and whole-hearted 'Hallelujah!'

In Christ,  
Pastor Becca

# Session News

From Sharon Pappas - Clerk of Session



There are a number of dates on our congregational calendar for April. First is our spring clean up on **April 6**. There are flower beds to prepare, weeds to tame, bushes to trim, branches blown down this winter to gather before our lawn service begins, maybe windows to clean. Our kitchen workers do a pretty good job of keeping that organized. Mulch is ordered and Carl Anderson will have some of our equipment but do bring your gloves. Rain date is the 13<sup>th</sup>.

Next, our Confirmation Class completed their studies and meets with Session on **April 11** before joining the congregation as full members on **April 21**, Easter Sunday.

The Called Congregational Meeting on **April 14**, following worship, is to elect new officers. Session fulfills all the duties of trustees, deacons, and elders and we are delighted that Sue Holmes, Julie Ballard and Don Vasbinder have agreed to join us for the Class of 2021. Terms are for two years, elders are eligible for a second term and we are pleased Sue will serve a second term. At this congregational meeting we will name a youth member for the 2019-2020 year.

Palm Sunday, **April 14**, bake sale sponsored by our Youth and Christian Education teams is held after church. The Palm Court Orchestra concert is in the afternoon at 3:00 pm, with reception following. See page 7 or visit our website for more details.

Maundy Thursday service, **April 18**, begins at 7:30 pm this year. More details for this service are on page 7. Time was adjusted this year to coordinate with the setting of the sun.

Easter Sunday, **April 21**, another full celebration with Red Sea Parting, vocal choir, and confirmands. We will receive the One Great Hour of Sharing offering.

Youth retreat the weekend of **April 26-28** for planning our Youth Sunday in May.

The ESCAPE sing is Sunday, **April 28**.

## Our Current Session Members:

Tony Caviglia  
Sue Holmes  
Mark Kearney

Elizabeth Meirowitz  
Beth Oates  
Diana Steppling

***Next Session Meeting: April 11, 2019 7:00 pm***



- ~ Prayers of comfort for Mary Rhodes and her family on the loss of her mother, Lois Woodwell, on March 11.
- ~ Prayers for all who struggle with mental health issues.
- ~ Prayers for all who struggle with addiction/substance abuse.
- ~ Prayers for *First of Westminster, Granite, Hope, Korean United and Mt. Hebron Presbyterian Church* from our Ministry Group.

### **Prayer Group**

Prayer Group meets at the Manse on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays of the month at 10:30 am. April meetings will be on **April 9 and April 23**. The group has a core group of regulars, those who participate when their schedules allow, and several faithful electronic members – all are welcome! You can send your praises and concerns to Sandy Newsome at [sandy.newsome814@gmail.com](mailto:sandy.newsome814@gmail.com).

### **Covenant Network of Presbyterians**

It is with joy and excitement that I share with you that at our March session meeting, Springfield Presbyterian Church voted to join the Covenant Network of Presbyterians. In joining this partnership, we are covenanting with other PC(USA) churches around the nation that we are a community that welcomes LGBT+ people and strive for inclusivity in our worshipping body and beyond. If you have any questions about the network, please feel free to ask Pastor Becca in person or at [springfieldpastor@gmail.com](mailto:springfieldpastor@gmail.com).



Also, to find out more about the Covenant Network, please see their website, <https://covnetpres.org/about/>

### **Senior Tax Break for Charitable Contributions**

People reaching 70 1/2 must begin taking withdrawals from their IRAs under the rule for required minimum distributions (RMDs), which means paying tax on the withdrawn amount. But there is a provision in the regulation that allows distribution of RMDs from IRAs directly to a charity and excludes those funds from income, called a 'qualified charitable distribution'. The net effect: The taxpayer is getting a tax deduction for charitable giving without itemizing deductions. Read more at <https://www.washingtonpost.com/business/2019/03/25/these-seniors-can-still-get-tax-break-charitable-contributions-even-if-they-dont-itemize/?>

***Reach out in friendship and encourage the lonely.***

## COMMUNION SERVERS

**April Communion Servers**April 7 (Traditional)

1. Linda Black
2. Charlie Sperling
3. Diana Stepling
4. Don Vasbinder
5. Sharon Pappas

April 18 - Maundy Thursday (Intinction)

1. Kathy Russ
2. Barbara Nickell
3. Max Carroll
4. Linda Black

April 21 - Easter Sunday (Traditional)

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Charlie Sperling</li> <li>2. Don Vasbinder</li> <li>3. Jim Wise</li> <li>4. Sharon Pappas</li> <li>5. Ed Newsome</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6. Bob Stepling</li> <li>7. Bob Rogers</li> <li>8. Sandy Newsome</li> <li>9. Beth Oates</li> </ol> |
|---|---|

# Church Calendar

**Headhuggers**

Monday, 4/8 - 7:00 pm (Manse)

**Prayer Group**

Tuesday, 4/9 &amp; 4/23 - 10:30 am (Manse)

**Feed My Sheep Lunches**

Monday, 4/15 - 9:30 am (Wesley Freedom)

**Church Cleaning**

April 5, 6 or 7 - Martha & Davis Streaker  
 April 19, 20 or 21 - Ron & Sue Holmes

**Need a meal?** Or know someone who does? We want to help - just need to be "in the know". Contact Connie Robinson at [robinsonconn40@gmail.com](mailto:robinsonconn40@gmail.com) or 240-278-9040.

Assisting on Sundays	4/7	4/14	4/21	4/28
Sunday Opener	Bob Rogers	Ron Holmes	Beth Oates	Jennifer Wise
Ushers & Greeters	Sharon Pappas Martha Streaker	Connie Robinson Ed Newsome	Elizabeth Meiowitz Bob Rogers	Amy Vasbinder Cynthia Smith
Lay Leader	Elizabeth Meiowitz	Max Carroll	Tim Oates	Barbara Cornell
Sunday School	Connie Robinson	Connie Robinson	Connie Robinson	Connie Robinson
Fellowship	Brittany & Danny Rachin	Palm Sunday Bake Sale	Barbara Cornell	Need Volunteer

## Sunday School & Youth News

From Connie Robinson, Sunday School Coordinator

C.I.A. (Community In Action) will meet on **April 1 and April 15** from 4:30 - 6 pm at the Manse. Pizza and drinks provided. Friends are welcome and encouraged to attend! C.I.A is a group open to all religious and non-religious people as a means of providing the community with acts of kindness. This month we will be putting together Easter baskets . Come and be part of giving back to our community.

**C.I.A.  
Community  
In  
Action**

**Sunday School:** After enjoying the Sermon, all youth/children are invited downstairs for Sunday School. Come and enjoy!

### Annual Ocean City Youth Retreat

Spring is almost here! So mark your calendars for the Annual Ocean City Youth Retreat on the last weekend of April (**April 26-28**). Details forthcoming...

Save the date! Back by popular demand is the C.I.A. Camp on **June 23-27**. Details in next month's newsletter...



**April 14**  
6:30 pm (Manse)



**FAMILY GAME NIGHT**

**April 19 - 7:00 pm**  
**Fellowship Room**



During Lent, as we intentionally focus on aligning our lives with God's calling for us, One Great Hour of Sharing provides an opportunity to become, as Isaiah proclaims, repairers of the breach. For 70 years, Presbyterians have joined together in this ecumenical effort to share God's love through ministries that provide relief to those affected by disasters, food for the hungry, and support toward the self-development of poor and oppressed communities. Our offering is divided in thirds to support: Presbyterian Disaster Assistance working alongside communities as they recover and find hope after

natural or human-caused disasters; Presbyterian Hunger Program supporting initiatives that create sustainable food systems and alleviate root causes of poverty so all may be fed; Self-Development of People providing resources and education to oppressed and disadvantaged communities working to overcome poverty and injustice through initiatives they own and directly benefit from. PDA grants, matched by the Presbytery's own funds were there at the churches in San Juan, Puerto Rico within days after the 2017 hurricane. Grants provided supplies like medicine, food, water, diapers.

OGHS offering is welcome at any time but will be formally received on Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday in pew envelopes.



## From Linda Caviglia - Minister of Music

With Holy Week coming up I'd like outline some of the special events taking place at Springfield:

**Palm/Passion Sunday** : We will celebrate Palm/Passion Sunday on **April 14** with the joy of Jesus' entrance into Jerusalem with palms and a special introit which will involve the adult choir and children/youth. As the service progresses and we travel through to the story of the Passion, the adult choir will offer a moving anthem *In the Shadow of the Cross*. In the afternoon we will have a concert series concert featuring Palm Court Orchestra with ragtime music.

**Maundy Thursday**: This service is a remembrance of the crucifixion of Christ. It is a beautiful and solemn service that lets us truly focus on the sacrifice Jesus made for us.

**Easter Vigil**: We have had some interest expressed in holding an Easter Vigil this year. It's been some time since we did this, and I am trying to find out how much interest there is. I have posted a sign-up sheet with one hour time periods through the event.

### **How do we observe the Easter Vigil?**

The Sanctuary would be open from 9 pm Saturday, **April 20** through 8 am Sunday, **April 21** (Easter) if there is enough interest in the idea. People will sign up for an hour to come to the Sanctuary to meditate, sing, pray or just be, as we await Easter morning. We will provide meditative music, materials for reading and reflection, and candles which may be lit as you spend some quiet time with God in anticipation of the resurrection of our Lord, Jesus Christ. We will also arrange to have someone in the Fellowship Room for the night as a "watch person" so that no one will be completely alone in the building. Please sign-up or speak to Linda Caviglia or Rev. Crate if you are interested and/or want more information.

**Easter Sunday**: We will have a joyous Easter Sunday celebration with beautiful flowers and music by Red Sea Parting with the adult choir. Following the service there will be an Easter Egg Hunt for all who want to participate.



### **Our Next Concert: Palm Court Orchestra April 14, 2019 3:00 pm**

The next concert on our schedule will be in April so you have time to put the date on your calendar well in advance so you won't miss it! Palm Court Orchestra is a small ensemble, sub-group of the larger Peacherine Ragtime Society Orchestra (pictured here). We will host a group of 5 or 6 members of the orchestra for an afternoon of ragtime music. The full orchestra has been hailed by the Washington Post as "the premier American ragtime ensemble"! Andrew Greene, founder and

director of the group, was at the University of Maryland when he formed the group while a freshman. He was "... hoping to draw attention to this neglected but historically important music."

Please plan on coming and bringing a friend for this performance. As always, the concert is free to all. A free will offering will be accepted and refreshments will be served following the concert.

# Mission

## Blessing Bags

The youth assembled Blessing Bags, which are available in the Narthex. This is a very real, tangible way to help in a situation where you find someone who is in need and you really feel like you want to do something but are unsure of exactly what to do. Handing out a Blessing Bag to someone gives you a very real way to meet their immediate needs by providing them with some basic supplies such as toiletries, water, food and warmth.

Blessing Bags are great to keep on hand in your car, so if you are in a situation where you find someone in need, you have the bag right there to hand to them. Pick up a few from the Narthex today!

**Giving Opportunities:** Over the next several weeks there are three offerings. We want you to know about all three if you would like to participate in them along with your regular pledge.

- \* **Heifer International** has been supported by our Sunday school and Youth programs. Last year the money given now and at CIA Camp was used to buy a llama. This year Heifer is matching donations and we hope to buy goat(s).
- \* A new offering received on fifth Sundays (there are four this year) is an opportunity to empty your loose change, making a **Noisy Offering**. This will be collected by our youth and will support the work of our Mission/Outreach Committee. (Our musicians will work with this new sound element.)
- \* Presbytery's **One Great Hour of Sharing** is collected on April 14 and 21. This offering supports Presbyterian Disaster Relief, global hunger relief, and self-development of people programs.



ESCAPE Lunch  
Packing



These wonderful children's activity totes were made by our members for the children and can be found in the Narthex by the front door. There are tote bags clearly marked for younger children and another set for older children, each with a variety of age-appropriate activities. We are so grateful to **Julie Ballard** for designing and sewing each unique bag, **Beth Oates** for finding all the varied items for the levels, and the generous gift from **Peter Cornell** of his handcrafted tree stand holding the bags. We hope the children and their parents know they are welcome and encouraged to borrow them during our time of worship.



- 3** Barbara Cornell
- 3** India Oates
- 7** Wes McClung
- 10** Michelle Newsome
- 12** Lisa Rogers
- 13** Kelsey Robinson
- 19** Deb Sperling
- 23** Morgan Mazer



- 25** Becca Crate & Lorna Bowry

### **April 7**

Isaiah 43:16-21; Psalm 126;  
Philippians 3:4b-14; John 12:1-8

### **April 14 - Palm Sunday**

Psalms: Luke 19:28-40; Psalm 118:1-2,  
19-29

Passion: Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 31:9-16;  
Philippians 2:5-11; Luke 22:14-23:56 or  
Luke 23:1-49

### **April 18 - Maundy Thursday**

Exodus 12:1-4 (5-10), 11-14; Psalm  
116:1-2, 12-19; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26;  
John 13:1-17, 31b-35

### **April 21 - Easter**

Acts 10:34-43 or Isaiah 65:17-25;  
Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; 1 Corinthians  
15:19-26 or Acts 10:34-43; John 20:1-18  
or Luke 24:1-12

### **April 28**

Acts 5:27-32; Psalm 118:14-29 or  
Psalm 150; Revelation 1:4-8; John  
20:19-31

### **ESCAPE Ministries Benefit Concert**

The annual benefit concert for ESCAPE Ministries will be held on Sunday, **April 28** at 2:30 pm at Wesley Freedom United Methodist Church (961 Johnsville Road, Sykesville, MD 21784). Our adult choir will sing, along with musical offerings from many local churches and groups who are friends of ESCAPE. Please join us for a fun afternoon of music in support of this very important local ministry. A free-will offering will be taken.



May's newsletter deadline is **April 20**. Please submit your information to [spc.office@verizon.net](mailto:spc.office@verizon.net).

## ***CrossRoads***

*Springfield Presbyterian Church (USA)*

7300 Spout Hill Road, Sykesville, MD 21784

(410) 795-6152

Website/email:

[www.springfield-church.org](http://www.springfield-church.org)

[spc.office@verizon.net](mailto:spc.office@verizon.net)

### **Worship Hours**

10:30 am Worship & Sunday School

11:30 am Fellowship

Pastor: Rev. Becca Crate

[springfieldpastor@gmail.com](mailto:springfieldpastor@gmail.com)

Clerk of Session: Sharon Pappas

Minister of Music: Linda Caviglia

Accompanist: Aaron Thacker

Organist: Jennifer Wise

Sunday School: Connie Robinson

Youth Group: Charles & Deb Sperling

Administrative Assistant: Donna Mazer

# CrossRoads

April 2019 News

Springfield  
Presbyterian Church



***Our vision for the ministry is to be an open, flourishing, multigenerational congregation, where all can worship, study, and act to discern God's plan for us and our community. Valuing all people, we are committed to developing disciples and fostering stewardship.***

Springfield Presbyterian Church  
7300 Spout Hill Road  
Sykesville, MD 21784

