



# CrossRoads

Springfield Presbyterian Church

February 2018

**Did you know?** More than 28 years ago, the Souper Bowl of Caring began with a simple prayer from a youth group: “**Lord, even as we enjoy the Super Bowl football game, help us be mindful of those without a bowl of soup to eat.**”

Since that day, more than \$135 million has been raised for local charities to provide shelter to the homeless, food to the hungry and compassion to those in need.



Please give generously on Souper Bowl Sunday, **February 4**, or any time during the rest of the month. All donations will be used to purchase food for the Sykesville Middle School Food Pantry. And join us after Worship on February 4 for the Souper Bowl of Caring soup luncheon!

**In case of inclement weather...** If we feel the need to cancel Worship and Sunday School, there will be a message on the Church answering machine, as well as on Facebook. You may also receive an email with that information.



### RGEF Interest-Free College Loans Available

If you know of a full-time college junior, senior or grad student who may benefit from an interest-free college loan, please direct them to the Church website at [www.springfield-church.org](http://www.springfield-church.org) for more information and to download the RGEF Loan Application Form A. Loan applications are evaluated on an academic performance, financial need and a brief essay. **The deadline for submitting applications is March 1, 2018.**

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# Pastor's Page

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

It seems like we are all recovering from the Christmas season and the fun and energy and joyful blessing of Christ entering our lives as a child in a manger, becoming the Saviour of the world. It's hard to believe that we are now, this month, entering the time of Lent, where we walk the journey together of a faithful Christ who heals, leads, preaches, comforts, and ministers. At the end of the Lenten journey, we face a difficult reality: the death of our Saviour on a cross for the sin of the world. And in a beautiful moment, that still captures our hearts today, we rejoice at Easter when our Saviour rises from the dead and is resurrected, to show that death cannot extinguish love.

This month, we begin this journey by marking our hearts and our foreheads with ashes. We will join together at Springfield on **February 14<sup>th</sup>** at 6pm for a simple soup and bread supper and then convene in the Sanctuary at 7pm for a sacred service: Ash Wednesday. We are joyful that we have the opportunity to offer our hospitality and our welcome to our neighbors in faith: St. Barnabas, St. Paul's, Gaither, and St. Luke's from Sykesville who will help to make this service a true reflection of the community of Christ gathering together.

I encourage you all to join us for supper and for a service at 7pm on February 14<sup>th</sup>, where we will prepare ourselves for this solemn, waiting, and joyful season. Come and join us, come and hear what the Lord is calling you to this Lenten season. Come and be marked as a child of Christ with the mark of ashes, a tangible sign of your faithfulness to embrace this season of learning and of journeying with Christ on the way to the cross.

In Christ,  
Pastor Becca

# Session News

From Sharon Pappas - Clerk of Session



The new year at Springfield is well underway with plans laid out at a January calendar planning meeting already being implemented.

Our Christian Ed team has planned a great year for our children. Read the Community in Action report to see how that group is making "blessing bags" for us all to have on hand to share with those in need of a kind word, hand warmers, or a new toothbrush.

There are several dates already placed on our calendar by the Mission/Outreach team. The first is the Souper Bowl of Caring followed by Easter with youth hosting a Shelter party in Westminster.

In preparation for the Season of Lent, Sarah Lantz is leading a six-week study of The Miracles of Jesus, by Jessica LaGrone (available at Amazon), on Tuesday evenings at Panera in Eldersburg beginning **February 13** (omitting March 13, ESCAPE packing date).

Worship team is planning our Lenten activities beginning with an ecumenical Ash Wednesday service here at Springfield, inviting the community into our Taize' service.

New gutters have been installed on the Education Wing replacing old, leaking ones. That may have contributed to the return of mold in the downstairs. ServPro tended to that remediation.

A spring clean-up date is scheduled for **April 14** to work around the Church and Manse buildings, preparing for our planting.

On **February 11** we will meet after church for our annual congregational meeting to receive the 2018 budget, committee reports, and approve Terms of Call for Pastor Becca.

***Next Session Meeting:*** Thursday, March 8 at 7:00 pm



- ~ We would like to thank everyone for all of their love and support over the last year. The loss of Deb's mom after Christmas ended a long and difficult year of extreme emotional ups and downs. The support from our church was amazing and we greatly appreciated every kind word, gesture and prayer that was offered. We were often away from the church for long periods of time when caring for Deb's mom and yet never felt like we were away when we returned. Thank you for all your love and support. ~ Deb and Charles Sperling
- ~ Prayers of healing for Peggy Robbins who has had a health setback.
- ~ Prayers for Lea Mueller (Connie Robinson's niece) for health concerns.
- ~ Prayers for all who have suffered from natural disasters across the world.
- ~ Prayers for all who struggle with mental health issues.
- ~ Prayers for all who struggle with addiction/substance abuse.
- ~ Prayers for Catonsville, Christ Memorial, First of Howard County, First of Westminster, and Granite from our Ministry Group.

### **Prayer Group:**

Prayer Group will meet at 10:30 am at the Manse on **February 13** and **February 27**. Please join us to share prayers for our friends, community, nation and world!

*The human spirit fills with hope  
at the sound of an encouraging word.*



### February 4 Communion Servers (Traditional)

1. Diana Stepling
2. Barbara Nickell
3. Kay Freas
4. Charlie Sperling
5. Jim Wise

### February 14 (Ash Wednesday) Communion Servers (Intinction)

1. Kathy Russ
2. Barbara Nickell
3. Max Carroll
4. Barbara Cornell

Mark your calendar for the Annual Congregational Meeting on **February 11** In the Sanctuary immediately following Worship. The purpose of the meeting is to receive the 2018 budget, committee reports, and approve the Terms of Call for Rev. Crate.



CONGREGATIONAL  
MEETING

Assisting on Sundays	2/4	2/11	2/14 Ash Wed.	2/18	2/25
Sunday Opener	Ron Holmes	Bob Rogers	Kay Freas	Ed Newsome	Jennifer Wise
Ushers & Greeters	Amy Vasbinder Jim Wise	Connie Robinson Martha Streaker	Sharon Pappas	Don Vasbinder Charlie Sperling	Steve & Donna Mazer
Lay Leader	Tim Oates	Sharon Pappas	N/A	Linda Black	Kay Freas
Sunday School	Connie Robinson	Connie Robinson	N/A	Connie Robinson	Connie Robinson
Fellowship	Barbara Cornell Souper Bowl	Diana Stepling	Soup Dinner	Belle & Don Vasbinder	Mary & Jim Rhodes

# Church Calendar

## Headhuggers

Monday, 2/12 - 7:00 pm (Manse)

## Prayer Group

Tuesday, 2/13 & 2/27 - 10:30 am (Manse)

## Fairhaven Communion

Wednesday, 2/21 - 11:00 am (Cox Room)

## Feed My Sheep Lunches

Monday, 2/19 - 9:30 am (Wesley Freedom)

## Church Cleaning

February 9, 10 or 11 - Belle Vasbinder & Barbara Nickell

February 23, 24 or 25 - Sandy Newsome & Kay Freas



Easter Flowers

Watch in your Bulletins for the Easter Flower Order Form! Copies are also available in the Narthex. Flower orders are due by **February 20**.

The **Nominating Committee** will be meeting on Sunday, **February 18** after Worship.

Sight and Sound Theater, Lancaster, PA presents "**The Miracles of Jesus**" on Tuesday, **April 10, 2018**. This bus trip is sponsored by Church Women United of Carroll County with Rill's Bus Company. Pick up at 8:00 am at parking lot adjacent to Shepherd's Staff, Carroll Street, Westminster with return at 5:45 pm. Cost is \$105, per person, includes bus, show, family style lunch at Good and Plenty Restaurant after the show. (children 4-12 \$70). Bus driver tip not included. Reservations: Mary Jane Graf 410-374-4478. Make check payable to Church Women United of Carroll County; mail by March 1 to Mary Jane Graf, 5115 S. Church Street, Lineboro, MD 21102.



## From Linda Caviglia - Minister of Music

This year we will celebrate Ash Wednesday with an Ecumenical service including several other congregations in the Sykesville area. We are looking forward to sharing this meaningful service in our Sanctuary with other members of the community! We plan to have the structure of the service similar to how we've celebrated in the past with communion, imposition of ashes and Taize music. Please come out and join us as we begin our Lenten journey on Wednesday, **February 14th** at 7:00 pm.

The Presbyterones plan to play some new music for you on Palm/Passion Sunday. As usual, we're having fun learning some new music and working to sound our best. So, plan to begin your Holy Week with us at Church that morning, for Palms, bells, a message to think about and fellowship with your friends and church family.



## Music News from Red Sea Parting

We hope everyone enjoyed the music at the special service on January 21 - we enjoyed sharing it with you. For February, we are planning a piece called "That Was Then; This Is Now" by Josh Wilson. The theme of this piece is that we have been remade into a new creation; that God changes us fundamentally when we repent and accept His grace and forgiveness. We thought that would be a good theme for the new year! If you want a preview, check it out on YouTube!



### Our Next Concert!

**Aaron Thacker, Pianist**

**February 11, 2018 @3:00 pm**

Our next concert is one you should not miss! (Of course I usually say that, but...) Aaron Thacker will be our featured artist this month and will entertain us with his beautiful music. He plans a classical, solo piano concert with "a fair amount of Chopin, some Debussy, Ravel, Liszt and Brahms as well". Please join us for this concert by one of "our own". We will enjoy refreshments following the concert as usual.

# Sunday School & Youth News

From Connie Robinson, Sunday School Coordinator

## C.I.A. (Community In Action)

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. We will be doing different activities throughout the school year to help people in our community who are in need. We will meet on **February 5** and **February 19** from 4:30 to 6:00 pm in the Manse. Pizza and drinks provided!



\*\*\*\*\*

Our own Pastor Becca was recognized by her alma mater, Arcadia University, as one of their "40 Under 40", some of their "most promising, accomplished, entrepreneurial, creative and inspiring young alumni". Congrats Pastor Becca!



### **REV. BECCA CRATE '09, AGE 30**

**Bachelor of Fine Arts in Graphic Design**

**Pastor at Springfield Presbyterian Church (Sykesville, Md.), and first LGBTQ minister in the county; LGBTQ advocate**

#### **Greatest Achievement**

I think my greatest achievement is my position as head minister of Springfield Presbyterian Church in Sykesville, Md. I have the wonderful opportunity to combine my love of art and design and my knowledge of theology to make church more accessible to visual learners.

#### **In Five Years...**

If the path is clear, I will continue as the head pastor at Springfield Presbyterian Church, and life will keep getting better. I hope to get more involved on a national level in the graphic design communications of the Presbyterian Church and to encourage art as a spiritual practice.



- 1 Steve Mazer**
- 1 Donna Mazer**
- 5 Wesley Stinson**
- 12 Megan Anderson**
- 18 Robert Frothingham**
- 19 Dorothy Schafer**
- 24 Jim Wise**
- 26 Elsa Oates**

### **February 4**

Isaiah 40:21-31; Psalm 147:1-11, 20c;  
1 Corinthians 9:16-23; Mark 1:29-39

### **February 11**

2 Kings 2:1-12; Psalm 50:1-6; 2 Corinthians 4:3-6; Mark 9:2-9

### **February 18**

Genesis 9:8-17; Psalm 25:1-10;  
1 Peter 3:18-22; Mark 1:9-15

### **February 25**

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16; Psalm 22:23-31;  
Romans 4:13-25; Mark 8:31-38



### **Feed the Bin!**

**All  
proceeds go  
to  
ESCAPE  
Ministries**



March's newsletter deadline is  
**February 21**. 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

February 2018 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

