



**NEW SUNDAY SERVICE HOURS**

**Beginning February 4, Sunday services will be held at 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.**

**ASH WEDNESDAY, February 14, 7:30 p.m.** Service of prayer & silence. Imposition of ashes optional.

**SOUP-ER BOWL OFFERING**

**Sunday, February 4.** Can we all contribute \$1 (or more) for the Martinsburg Rescue Mission soup kitchen?



**BLANKET OFFERING**

**Sunday, February 18.** Five dollars (\$5) will purchase a woolen blanket for Church World Service to distribute in times of disaster.



**LENTEN SUNDAY EVENINGS February 25, March 4 & 11**

**5:30 p.m.** Soup and Bread Supper in Fellowship Hall

Please sign up in Fellowship Hall to bring soup and bread.

*(It helps the kitchen crew if you bring your own bowl, spoon and cup.)*

**6:15 p.m.** Program in Sanctuary: "Notes from My Spiritual Journey"

**February 25** John Gonano and Karen Kinnett

**March 4** Esther Murphy and Lonce Bailey

**March 11** Anne Teresa and Bill Rule

*Childcare available. Contact: [office@shepherdstownpresbyterian.org](mailto:office@shepherdstownpresbyterian.org).*

**NOTES FROM OUR CONGREGATIONAL JOURNEY...**

In 2016, SPC set out on a rich process of self-reflection and assessment about who we are and where the future is calling us. The Congregational Assessment Tool (CAT) has been the framework for that reflection.

Last October, we completed the final phase of the CAT: a short 9-question survey, which we lovingly refer to as the *mini CAT*. These questions asked us to look to the future.

**So, what did we learn from the mini CAT?**

Despite entering a period of uncertainty and change, we learned that survey participants are committed to supporting SPC with their time, talent and treasure. In addition, they are comfortable with the current direction the church is heading and view preaching as the most critical attribute for a called Pastor.

While the CAT surveys provide helpful information on where we are and where we're going, they are not *absolute* indicators. So, more work needs to be done to chart the path ahead. Over the next few months, we will be continuing our dialogue with the congregation regarding SPC's mission and ministry.

Thanks to all who participated in the most recent mini CAT. For more detailed information on the results, see [mini CAT](#).

*Prepared by the Strategic Planning Committee (formerly known as the CAT team) Bill Ashforth, Ethel Hornbeck, Lois Spreen, Anne Teresa, Leslie Williams, Judy York and Carolee Youngblood*



**INCLEMENT WEATHER NOTICE** No one should risk life, limb or property to get to the church. Sunday morning services (8:30 and/or 11:00 a.m.) and other events may be cancelled if the pastor and other worship leaders cannot make it in safely. However, those who can get in safely are welcome to organize a service on their own using the order of service for the day, or something else. Bulletins are in the Narthex. Check the website or office phone, 304.876.6466, after 7:30 p.m. on Saturday for Sunday cancellation notices.

## Transition News...

**PRAYER REQUESTS** Send to Kathy Reid at [kathy@shepherdstownpresbyterian.org](mailto:kathy@shepherdstownpresbyterian.org).

**TRANSITION QUESTIONS** Direct all questions and/or concerns to the Stated Clerk of Session, Suellen Myers via [transition-questions@shepherdstownpresbyterian.org](mailto:transition-questions@shepherdstownpresbyterian.org) or Office Manager Kathy Reid via [kathy@shepherdstownpresbyterian.org](mailto:kathy@shepherdstownpresbyterian.org).

## Adult Education...

### *Faithful Resistance:*

*Gospel Visions for the Church in a Time of Empire*  
by Rick Ufford-Chase

**(NOTE NEW START TIME: 9:45 in Fellowship Hall.)**

February 4	Institutional Church as an Expression of Solidarity (Ch. 9)
February 11	Dismantling White Supremacy (Ch. 2)
February 18	No Seminar – Retreat weekend with Jessica Vazquez Torres
February 25	Resisting the Seduction of Silence (Ch. 5)
March 4	No Seminar – Congregational feedback meeting
March 11	Learning Nonviolence in a Multifaith World (Ch. 4)
March 18	Reimagining Ecological Theology (Ch. 3)
March 25	Theological Education as an Act of Subversion (Ch. 7)
April 1	No Seminar — Easter
April 8	Mission as a Move to the Margins (Ch. 8)
April 15	Dismantling Corporate Church as a Step to Liberation (Ch. 10)
April 22	Conclusion

## SPC Monthly Activities...

**BLOOD PRESSURE CLINIC** First Sundays, 9:30–10:30 a.m. in the narthex. (Note: schedule changes.) February clinic is cancelled. **Next: March 11; April 8.**

**FIRST THINGS FIRST SUNDAY** Coins for Presbyterian Hunger Program. Place in bucket in the narthex. **Next: February 4.**

**CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER SERVICE** in the way of Taizé: song, silence and readings. First Wednesdays, 7 p.m. Sanctuary. **Next: February 7.**

**PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S (PW) CIRCLE** First Thursdays, 10:00 a.m., Fellowship Hall. We will be guided in our discussions by the book *Fierce: Women of the Bible and their Stories of Violence, Mercy, Bravery, Wisdom, Sex and Salvation*. February chapter is "Asherah: So God Had a Wife, Maybe? Probably?" All women of the church are welcome. **Next: February 1.**

**CONNECTIONS** SPC's Shepherd University-based group for college students meets every other Tuesday at 4 p.m., at the Blue Moon. For more information contact Ethel Hornbeck, [ethel@shepherdstownpresbyterian.org](mailto:ethel@shepherdstownpresbyterian.org).

**MEN'S BREAKFAST** Third Saturdays. Breakfast at 7:30 a.m. Discussion, 8:00–9:00 a.m. **Next: February 17.**

**LISTENING GROUPS** Prayerful listening and conversation around scripture, poetry and other selected texts, led by Ethel Hornbeck.

• Third Wednesdays, 7–8:00 p.m. in the balcony.

**Next: February 21.**

• Third Thursdays, 10:00–11:00 a.m. in Classroom #1. **Next: February 15.**

### SUPPER GROUPS

• TGIF, **Friday, February 9**, 6:30 p.m., hosted by Elaine Hurd  
• Moveable Feast, **Saturday, February 10**, 6:30 p.m., hosted by Duane & Marianne Alexander and Carolee Youngblood.

**CANTERBURY SERVICE** Fourth Wednesdays, 10:45 a.m. Contact: Debbie Romano via [office@shepherdstownpresbyterian.org](mailto:office@shepherdstownpresbyterian.org). **Next: February 27.**

**COMMUNITY HYMN SING** Last Sundays, 4:30 p.m., Choir Room. Join us for a solid hour of singing hymns with good tunes and inspiring lyrics. Hymnals and song sheets are provided. Contact Terry Tucker via [office@shepherdstownpresbyterian.org](mailto:office@shepherdstownpresbyterian.org). **Next: February 25.**



**SPC KNITTING GROUP** Last Saturdays, 1 p.m., Library Hall. Bring your own project or join us making prayer shawls and baby blankets. Contact Melinda Landolt or Elaine Hurd via [office@shepherdstownpresbyterian.org](mailto:office@shepherdstownpresbyterian.org). **Next: February 24.**

## Elsewhere...

**COMMUNITY DINNER** sponsored by the Jefferson County Homeless Coalition. First Sundays, 6 p.m., at Zion Episcopal Church, 301 East Congress St., Charles Town. We need: main dishes, veggies, salad, fresh fruit, bread, butter, and desserts. Sign up in the Fellowship Hall or go to [PerfectPotluck.com](http://PerfectPotluck.com); coordinator Wright, password 5777. Questions? Contact Bert Wright via [office@shepherdstownpresbyterian.org](mailto:office@shepherdstownpresbyterian.org).



Drop off hot food from 4:45–5:15 p.m. on designated Sunday. Leave other food in the SPC refrigerator anytime (marked Community Dinner). *Please use disposable containers, if possible.* **Next: February 4.**

**ROLLING RIDGE STUDY RETREAT COMMUNITY**  
For details, check *Events* at [www.rollingridge.net](http://www.rollingridge.net).

"Finding Light in Dark Times: A Meditative Arts Retreat," **February 9–10.**

"Singing the Trees: Chant, Nature and Soul," **April 20–22.**

# Mark Your Calendar...

## WEEKEND FORUM

### **“Racism, Power, and Dominance in the US and the Church”**

Facilitated by Kara Bender and Jessica Vazquez Torres who are with Crossroads Anti-racism Organizing & Training.



Kara Bender



Jessica Vazquez Torres

Consider how culture, cultural dominance, and organizations (including the church) are intentionally and unintentionally complicit in systemic racism. Build your capacity to engage in constructive dialog about white supremacy.

- **Friday, February 16**, 7–9 p.m.
- **Saturday, February 17**, 9 a.m.–3 p.m.
- **Sunday, February 18**, Jessica will preach and be present for open conversation between services.

## MONTREAT COLLEGE CONFERENCE

This year’s conference was another fabulous event attended by three students from our Shepherd University-based group Connections. It was a time to listen and learn from a series of prophetic speakers, teachers and preachers.

It provided spacious opportunity to hang out, worship, connect with one another, and create community with folks from WVU and Marshall with whom we shared lodging and meals.

I am so grateful to be part of a denomination that takes young people so seriously and supports them so consistently, and to this church that has been so generous in its support of our campus outreach over the past 10 years.

Read more here: [Montreat](#).

— *Ethel Hornbeck, Director of Spiritual Formation and Campus Ministry*

## YOUNG ADULT VOLUNTEER (YAV)

Hello, loved ones at SPC. Thank you for your consistent, unwavering support throughout my time here in New Mexico. Please know that I am forever grateful for your love and encouragement.

These past six months have been chock full of experiences, lessons, and places where I find deep fulfillment in my work. Particular moments with people who come to the food pantry every morning provide me with deeper perspectives and a greater love for our shared humanity.

The children, whom I spend time with through Arts Academy and Kids Club, teach me a great deal about compassion, amazement, and to never stop questioning.

It is halfway through my time here, and I am looking forward to the next stages of my journey, both in New Mexico and wherever God calls my spirit after this year. I am praying for everyone in Shepherdstown and hope that God is shedding Her light within our beautiful community.

Namaste

—*Bethany Przybocki*

*(If you are able, I am still receiving donations for my time out here.*

*Fundraising information is on the flyers on the bulletin board across from the office. Thank you!)*

## IMMIGRANT AND REFUGEE SUPPORT COMMITTEE

### DACA AND DREAMer FACTS

The DREAM Act, introduced in 2001, was designed to help young people brought to the US without documentation become citizens. They have grown up in the US, but lack the documentation to participate fully in society. Other legal pathways to citizenship are nearly non-existent for these young Latinos without passage of The DREAM Act.

DREAM stands for Development, Relief and Education for Alien Minors; there are approximately 2 million Dreamers. In 2012, the Obama Administration created a temporary program to establish a citizenship pathway called DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals) absent passage of The Dream Act.

DACA permits Dreamers to apply for deferred action (from deportation), although not lawful status. Applicants must pass a background check and apply for work permits; the application costs \$495. DACA status can be renewed every 2 years. Of the total 2 million Dreamers, approximately 800,000 participate in the DACA program.

In September 2017, President Trump announced DACA would be phased out, ending March 5, 2018. Those whose DACA expires between September 5, 2017, and March 5, 2018, may apply for one last 2-year renewal.

A federal court order in early January 2018, permits people with current DACA status to continue to apply for a 2-year renewal until a ruling is made.

Read more at [DACA](#).

—*Pat Hamilton*

## CHRISTMAS PAGEANT, December 31

DIRECTED BY LONCE BAILEY



## Mission...

SPC'S YOUTH GROUP is embarking on their annual mission trip to Washington, DC, February 23-25. They will be learning about hunger and homelessness in our nation's capital and will assist in several service activities to help homeless people. They are asking for donations of **NEW** socks, gloves and hats to distribute while in DC. A box is in the Fellowship Hall for any donations.

**HOMELESS SHELTER AT SPC** Our overnight guests will arrive around 7 p.m., and leave by 7 a.m, March 10-16. Volunteers are needed in two separate efforts: morning meals, and overnight stays. At least one man and one woman is needed each night. Contact Paul Hodder, [phodder@frontiernet.net](mailto:phodder@frontiernet.net) if you can help. If you would like to prepare breakfast, or ensure there are adequate breakfast supplies, contact Helen Burns, [helenhibbardburns@gmail.com](mailto:helenhibbardburns@gmail.com).

## Members and Friends...

### WELCOME NEW OFFICERS

Elders: Lois Spreen, Anne Teresa, Judy York (second term)  
Deacons: Lynn Coddington, Christa Joyce, Dave Smith

### BRANDON DENNISON, former SPC Youth Advisor,



was honored by the *WV Living* magazine as its first West Virginian of the Year for founding and managing Coalfield Development Corporation. Check the article: [www.wvliving.com/people/revisioning-appalachia/](http://www.wvliving.com/people/revisioning-appalachia/). During the past month, half of SPC's Christmas Eve offering went to

Coalfield Development Corporation.

Writing in the spirit of gratefulness, I want to thank the many kind people at SPC for their supportive prayers, beautiful prayer shawl, thoughtful e-mails, phone calls, and cards during my recent health challenges and surgery. I'm now in *recovery mode*, a sometimes slow process, but one which, I believe, is heading in the right direction. Your love and care has greatly assisted the healing efforts.

---Larry Neumark

**"PORTRAITS OF THE PAST"** by MORGAN SELL. Oil paintings from her undergrad days at Shepherd University will be in the Fellowship Hall, **February 11-March 11**.



Dear Shepherdstown Presbyterian Church, I am so thankful for everything you have done for us. I thought we were alone with our problems, but you showed up and helped us through them all.

(An excerpt from the letter from the

immigrant family children for whom your donations bought Christmas gifts and contributed toward legal fees.)

## Nurse's Notes...

### FLU PRECAUTIONS

Since this flu season has become one of the worst in recent years, I wanted to remind you of some things that you can do to lessen your chances of getting it.

First, keep yourself and your kids away from people who are sick. It is now felt that just breathing can transmit flu particles. Therefore, anyone who is starting to get symptoms should leave work or school right away, as they are the most contagious at that point.

Second, frequent hand washing and keeping hands away from the face is important. Cleaning hard surfaces in your home frequently with antiviral component might help. Use paper towels instead of a communal towel for hand drying. Also, place humidifiers in rooms as flu germs do not like warm moist air.

Third, and most importantly, if you have not gotten the flu shot this year, it is not too late. Even though the shot apparently only has only a 30% chance of preventing the present flu, it is still better than none at all. If you get the flu, it will be less severe if you have had the shot.

Don't be mad at me, but I am off to Florida until March! So, blood pressure clinic for February is cancelled. The March date will be the 11th instead of the 4th, and the April date is the 8th due to Easter Sunday.

Stay well and warm and I will see you in March.

—Merry Morgan, RN, Parish Nurse

## Financial Corner...

**GENERAL FUND** through January 28. Pledged for 2018: \$291,058. Expected to date: \$22,389. Actual giving: \$21,403. Building Fund pledged for 2018: \$28,910. Received to date: \$2,395.

**Joy Gift Offering** \$994

**Christmas Eve Offering** \$5257.26

**NEXT NEWSLETTER** March 2018. Send announcements, articles, member news, and your favorite travel pictures to [office@shepherdstownpresbyterian.org](mailto:office@shepherdstownpresbyterian.org).  
Deadline: **February 21**.

**VISIT** [www.shepherdstownpresbyterian.org](http://www.shepherdstownpresbyterian.org) for the latest news, podcasts, and calendar events.

**Shepherdstown Presbyterian Church**

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Visit [www.shepherdstownpresbyterian.org](http://www.shepherdstownpresbyterian.org) for the latest news, podcasts, and calendar of events.