



LENTEN SUNDAY EVENINGS 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"

March 4 Esther Murphy and Lonce Bailey

March 11 Anne Teresa and Bill Rule

Childcare available. Contact: office@shepherdstownpresbyterian.org.

EASTER OFFERING (One Great Hour of Sharing)



Turn in fish boxes and checks by **Sunday, April 15**. Donations will be split between humanitarian

ministries of the PCUSA (hunger relief, disaster assistance, self-development of people projects) and Jefferson County Community Ministries. (JCCM) Checks: memo: OGHS.

IF I HAD A HAMMER!
Weeklong Tool Drive for
Coalfield Development Corp!



Join SPC in our first-ever **TOOL DRIVE** by starting your spring cleaning in your garage or tool shed. Brandon Dennison, former SPC Youth Advisor and Founder/CEO of Coalfield Development Corp. has a huge need of tools (new and used) for his program trainees. Tools, which are critical to a trainee's success, are costly, and need to be constantly replaced. Imagine this: *your* extra hammer in the hands of a young trainee using Coalfields' education and employment opportunities to:

BREAK THE POVERTY CYCLE!

High priority tools for trainees: tool-belts, hammers (industrial strength), tape measures, builder's squares,

utility tools (all-in-one), work gloves (heavy duty), safety glasses, hard hats, utility knives (with replaceable blades) and wool socks

Other needed tools: circular saws, reciprocating saws (sawzall), crowbars, cat-claws (nail pullers), power drills, and nail guns

Collection Dates: Sunday, March 4–Sunday, March 11. Note: We only have one week!

Location: Tool Collection Boxes in SPC Fellowship Hall

Special Home Pick-up: Week of March 4–11

Questions: Call or email Georgia_Jeppesen@frontier.com, 304-274-2794, or text 304-671-3303.

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

MAUNDY THURSDAY, March 29, 7:30 p.m. Prayer in song and silence. Communion around the table.

PRAYER VIGIL to follow at 9:00 p.m. until 12 noon, Good Friday. Sign up in Narthex & Fellowship Hall.

EASTER SUNRISE, April 1, Informal service at Rumsey Monument. Gather at 6:45 a.m. Bring a reading, poem or song to share. (Dress warmly and bring something to sit on). A light breakfast will follow at the nearby home of Becky Phipps.

EASTER SERVICES, April 1, 8:30 and 11:00 a.m. Liturgy of Word & Table.

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.

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

TRANSITION REFLECTIONS

Last year, as a congregation, we identified three core commitments/values for the church. They are as known as *the trees*:

- Radical Hospitality
- Holistic Spirituality
- Engaged Compassion

As we look to discern our future and the talent needed (called pastor) to get us there, we have been meeting in small groups to explore 1) our strengths; 2) places where we may be falling short or could fall short as we move forward; and 3) if SPC is being called to any *new thing*. Collecting this information will be invaluable as we seek to understand what is next for SPC.

The final group meeting will be held on **Sunday, March 4**, between services in the Fellowship Hall. If you have not already participated in one of these groups during the past month, please join us.

— Strategic Planning Committee,

Bill Ashforth, Ethel Hornbeck, Lois Spreen, Anne Teresa, Leslie Williams, Judy York and Carolee Youngblood

Adult Education...

Faithful Resistance:

Gospel Visions for the Church in a Time of Empire

by Rick Ufford-Chase

9:45 in Fellowship Hall

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.) **Next: March 11; April 8.**

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

CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER SERVICE in the way of Taizé: song, silence and readings. First Wednesdays, 7 p.m. Sanctuary. **Next: March 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*. March chapter is "Hagar: Abraham's Other Woman." All women of the church are welcome. **Next: March 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.

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

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

SUPPER GROUP

• Moveable Feast, **Saturday, March 10**, 6:30 p.m., hosted by Rie Wilson.

CANTERBURY SERVICE Fourth Wednesdays, 10:45 a.m. Contact: Debbie Romano via office@shepherdstownpresbyterian.org. **Next: March 28.**

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. **Next: March 18** (Note a week earlier than usual).



SPC YARNS AND THREADS GROUP (new name for the Knitting Group to more properly identify what they do) 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. **Next: March 31.**



DO YOU ENJOY THE GOOD NEWS PAPER? Do you enjoy short drives around our area? To get out the good word, the Good News Paper needs some help delivering bundles of papers to local shops, churches, and other venues once each quarter. When the paper is published, bundles are left at SPC and need to be taken to about three-dozen places in Shepherdstown, Martinsburg, Harpers Ferry, and Charles Town. We'd like to split up the delivery duties among as many volunteers as we can get. Please contact Steve Altman at shepherdstown.gnp@gmail.com or 703.577.5439.

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; coordinator Wright, password 5777. Questions? Contact Bert Wright via 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: March 4.**

ROLLING RIDGE STUDY RETREAT COMMUNITY

For details, check *Events* at www.rollingridge.net.

St. Paddy's Spring Work Day & Potluck, **March 17.**

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

SPRING CLEANING? Donate queen or king blankets, quilts and comforters for making sleeping bags for homeless people. Contact Rie Wilson, via office@shepherdstownpresbyterian.org.

HELP SHEPHERDSTOWN MIDDLE SCHOOL (SMS)

Please save BOX TOP\$ symbols, like this one, for SMS. Each one you save is worth 10¢. There is a collection box on the Sunday Studio/Yootz bulletin board outside the church office.



PRESCRIPTION MEDS for disposal may be dropped at Shepherdstown police station Monday–Friday, 8 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

IMMIGRANT AND REFUGEE SUPPORT COMMITTEE

MORE ON DACA AND DREAMERS

Congress has been unable to agree on any legislation to resolve immigration issues. DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals) participants are still protected from deportation by two current lawsuits challenging the administration's ability to shut the program down.

The remaining undocumented Dreamers (brought to the US as children) are still vulnerable. The Supreme Court chose not to take up the administration's appeal of the two lawsuits. For now, DACA participants are in limbo, but protected. Check out:

www.usnews.com/news/national-news/articles/2018-02-20/supreme-court-doesnt-act-on-daca-appeal

—Pat Hamilton

PC(USA) COMPASSION PEACE AND JUSTICE

TRAINING DAY: "A World Uprooted: Responding to Migrants, Refugees and Displaced People." April 20, 8 a.m.–4:30 p.m., New York Ave. Presbyterian Church, Washington, DC. To register: pcusa.org/advocacytraining. Registration cost increases after March 16

The good Lord didn't create anything without a purpose, but mosquitoes come close.

REFLECTIONS ON FORUM ON SYSTEMIC RACISM

February 16 and 17

Kara Bender and Jessica Vazquez Torres of Crossroads Anti-Racism Organizing & Training led SPC's February forum "Introduction to Systemic Racism." We explored systemic racism and defined racism and white supremacy. We let language expose how cultural dominance and institutionalized racism impact poverty, gender inequity, lack of access to food and housing, etc. We learned we must nurture antiracist practice and culture at SPC—and that our work toward LGBTQ equity can map us toward that practice and culture.

Why do Millennials *get* the LGBTQ thing but not *get* systemic racism? By professing *colorblindness*, we failed to teach them about racism as systemic power domination.

Race is not biology but a construct. In 1790, the Supreme Court ruled that only free white people could be naturalized citizens. In 1922, the Supreme Court ruled that a Japanese person could not be a US citizen because he was not Caucasian. In 1923, the Court ruled that a Caucasian from India could not be a citizen because he wasn't white. Then the Court ruled that "white" is "subjectively understood by the common person"—white men on the Court!

If persons of color walk through SPC's building, do they see themselves here? (Maybe at the Narthex slave stairway?) There's work to do. —Ed Zahmiser

Notices...

YOU AND SPC CAN BOTH BENEFIT WITH THIS NEW TAX REGULATION

If you are over 70-1/2, and are taking an RMD (Required Minimum Distribution) from an IRA or 401(k), you normally must pay income tax on the amount of the RMD. But, you may avoid some of that tax if you have a part (or all) of the RMD sent directly to the church to satisfy your pledge. Briefly stated:

- The church gets the donation.
- **You pay no income tax on that portion of the RMD that you donate.**

This is *not a tax loophole or gimmick*. Congress enacted this rule to encourage philanthropy. *With the new tax regulations, this is a way to get a tax benefit for your donation, even if you take the standard deduction on your tax return.* Your tax adviser can discuss the tax benefits; your IRA custodian can provide instructions on how to do this. —John Burns, Stewardship Committee



NEW WEST VIRGINIA VOTER ID LAW

Voters are now required to present an acceptable ID form to vote in person. See the details on the SPC Bulletin Board or go to the WV Secretary of State site at www.wvsos.gov, click on Elections, then under 2018 Election select Voter ID Rack Card.

Mission...

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 if you can help. If you would like to prepare breakfast, or ensure there are adequate breakfast supplies, contact Helen Burns, helenhibbardburns@gmail.com.

Members and Friends...

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



JAMES “KIT” ROMANO MEMORIAL (Debbie’s husband), **Wednesday, March 21**, at 3:30 p.m., Byrd Science Building, Rm. 108. Celebration of the life and legacy to Shepherd University with a dedication of a bench and plaque commemorating his 45 years of teaching. Memorial contributions can be given to the Shepherd University Foundation, shepherduniversityfoundation.org, in Kit’s name.

NAOMI ARTLIP (Harpers Ferry Middle School) did a Social Studies Fair poster on “Civil War Monuments: Heritage or Hate?,” focusing on the Jefferson County



Courthouse plaque controversy (Category: State and Local). She competed successfully at the school and county levels. Naomi interviewed Linda Ballard, spokesperson of the

women who requested the plaque removal, and County Commissioner Jane Tabb. Naomi also was present for the Dr. King Day vigil to remove the plaque.

ELI DILLOW (Shepherdstown Middle School) did his Social Studies project on the constraints of the Hindu caste system (Category:

International Studies, Individual). He wrote about a dozen fictitious vignettes about the lives of various people under the caste system—how their lives have been served and constrained. His concluding sentence:

“...Also, be kind to everyone no matter who they are.”



Both Naomi and Eli received first places at the County level competition and will compete at the Regional competition on March 17.

Nurse’s Notes...

CAFFEINE MAY BE YOUR NEW BEST FRIEND!



All coffee drinkers, listen up! We may be making ourselves healthier and we didn’t even know it! According to a NIH study, the ingredients in coffee beans can lower our chance of getting dementia, Parkinson’s disease and help prevent stroke and certain kinds of cancer! It can improve the firing of neurons, leading to improvement in mood, memory, energy and general cognitive function.

For those of us looking to shed a little extra weight, caffeine may help there too. Several studies show that caffeine may boost metabolic rate by 3 to 11%. People with migraines and chronic pain may find that caffeine helps them manage those symptoms as well. It has been proven that caffeine potentiates the effect of pain relievers.

Anyone who wants to alter their caffeine consumption should do so gradually to see how their body reacts to the changes. And, as with anything else, moderation is the key. Of course, it can interfere with your sleep so proceed with caution if you have any issues with that.

Reminder: Blood pressure clinic for March will be the 11th since I am still in sunny Florida. See you then!

—Merry Morgan, RN, Parish Nurse

Financial Corner...

GENERAL FUND through February 25. Pledged for 2018: **\$291,058**. Expected to date: **\$44,778**. Actual giving: **\$51,569**. Building Fund pledged for 2018: **\$28,910**. Received to date: **\$5,125**.

Blanket Offering: \$1,490 to purchase a woolen blankets for Church World Service to distribute in times of disaster.

NEXT NEWSLETTER April 2018. Send announcements, articles, member news, and your favorite travel pictures to office@shepherdstownpresbyterian.org. Deadline: **March 21**.

VISIT www.shepherdstownpresbyterian.org for the latest news, podcasts, and calendar events.

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