



NEW SUNDAY SEMINAR SERIES

The Belhar Confession on **May 6, 13 and 20**, from 9:45–10:45 a.m., in the Fellowship Hall, led by Rev. Sitterley. The Belhar Confession is the most recent addition to our denomination's Book of Confessions. This is relevant not only because it is new, but also because it aligns with some principles important to SPC. Come and be informed!



PENTECOST OFFERING Sunday, May 20. Split equally between Caring Cupboard, which supplies food to school children for the weekend; and the PCUSA Youth Mission Fund, which encourages, develops, and supports its young people, and also addresses the needs of at-risk children.
Remember to wear red on Pentecost Sunday.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE BEGINS WORK ON PASTOR NOMINATING COMMITTEE SLATE

On April 3, Shenandoah Presbytery approved SPC's request to form a Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC), which will conduct the search for the next full-time (called) pastor of our church. The first step of this process is for the Nominating Committee to select a slate of six candidates for the PNC. The slate is to be broadly representative of the congregation and will be presented to the congregation for election.

The Nominating Committee expects to conclude its business in time for a congregational election by early June and is seeking your suggestions for candidates to the PNC. Forms are available at SPC

and on the website: [Suggestion Form for PNC](#). Please return forms by **May 6** to the office, place in the offering plate, or email your suggestions to: office@shepherdstownpresbyterian.org.

The Nominating Committee consists of five members elected by and from the congregation at large: Judy Moore, Julia Springer, Morgan Sell, Yvonne Fisher, and Ed Zahniser; plus two members of Session, appointed by Session: Mary Ellen Lloyd and me as Chair. I am happy to take any questions that the congregation may have about the process: jhornbeck@frontiernet.net.
—Jeff Hornbeck

SPC SUMMER PICNIC

The whole congregation together in one place at one time.

Sunday, June 3, 5:00 p.m., at Morgan's Grove Park

Come one, come all to the annual SPC picnic.

Games • Face Painting • Live Music

And the now-legendary soccer match—kids vs. kids at heart.

This is truly a not-to-be-missed SPC fellowship event.

Bring a dish to serve 12

Assignments per last name A-H: side dish;

I-S: veggie or salad; T-Z: dessert

Chicken, beverages, plates, cups, and flatware are provided.



Volunteers needed to set up at 4:00 p.m. and clean up after.

Contact office@shepherdstownpresbyterian.org.

LEADERS NEEDED Summer Studio is quickly approaching. We are searching for new and returning parent teachers, non-parents, and 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. attendees to lead a summer studio class.



Children are combined into one studio class and the lesson is up to you. Please consider giving back to our SPC children and their families! To sign up please contact Emily Gross, egross@shepherd.edu.

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 Rev. Bill Sitterley, bsitterley@shepherdstownpresbyterian.org.

STRATEGIC VISIONING COMMITTEE

Now that the Congregational Assessment Tool (CAT) team has completed its work, Rev. Sitterley and the Session saw the potential for that group to help SPC keep prayerfully imagining and living into its unfolding future. So the CAT team has become the Strategic Visioning Committee. This group is not a parallel governing body, but rather exists to support the Session in its work. The committee has met once to begin establishing its new focus. Current members include Anne Teresa, Judy York, Lois Spreen, Bill Ashforth, Carolee Youngblood, and Leslie Williams (chair), with Ethel Hornbeck and Bill Sitterley advising.

SPC COMMITTEES AND CHAIRS

The Session has agreed on the following committees and chair persons:

Social Justice	Lynn Coddington
Building	Bill Rule
Hospitality	Cari Simon
Parish Care	Paul Denchy
Stewardship	John Burns
Strategic Visioning	Leslie Williams
Nominating	Jeff Hornbeck
Missions	Mary Ellen Lloyd
Worship	Joshua Nolen
Adult Education	Anne Teresa
Youth Education	Judy York
Children's Education	Emily Gross
Treasurer	Bonnie Casely
Budget & Finance	Jeff Hornbeck
Personnel	Lois Spreen
Diaconate	Perry Jamieson

Feel free to contact these leaders via office@shepherdstownpresbyterian.org.

SPC Monthly Activities...

BLOOD PRESSURE CLINIC First Sundays, 9:30–10:30 a.m. in the narthex. **Next: May 6.**

FIRST THINGS FIRST SUNDAY Coins for Presbyterian Hunger Program. Place in bucket in the narthex. **Next: May 6.**

EVENING PRAYER Song, silence and candlelight in the way of Taizé. First Wednesdays, 7 p.m. Sanctuary. **Next: May 2.**

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*. May chapter is "Priscilla and Phoebe and Lydia and Rhoda: Paul's Church Ladies." All women are welcome. **Next: May 3.**

CONNECTIONS SPC's Shepherd University-based group for college students will resume in the fall.

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

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: May 16.

• Third Thursdays, 10:00–11:00 a.m. in Classroom #1. **Next: May 17.**

SUPPER GROUP

• Moveable Feast, **Saturday, May 12**, 6:30 p.m., hosted by Priscilla and Gary Deem.

CANTERBURY SERVICE Fourth Wednesdays, 10:45 a.m. Contact: Debbie Romano via office@shepherdstownpresbyterian.org. **Next: May 23.**

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: May 27.**



SPC YARNS AND THREADS GROUP Last Saturdays, 1 p.m., Fellowship 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: May 26.**



Your SPC library has books on a variety of topics and has had some recent additions. This is just a sampling of them:

- *The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Color Blindness* by Michelle Alexander. Social commentary on the huge racial disparity of punishment in America.
 - *America and Its Guns* by James E. Atwood. A theological expose of the impact guns have on our society.
 - *The First Paul: Reclaiming the Radical Visionary Behind the Church's Conservative Icon* by Marcus Borg & John Dominic Crossman. An expose of the church's conspiracy to silence Jesus' most faithful disciple, the Apostle Paul.
 - *Augustine for Armchair Theologians* by Stephen A. Cooper. An overview of one of the greatest theologians of the early church.
 - *At Jerusalem's Gate* by Nikki Grimes. Poems of Easter for young readers.
 - *Guerrillas of Grace* by Ted Loder. A collection of prayers.
- Books are shelved alphabetically by author. To borrow a book, fill out an index card found in the card file box—and check out this valuable resource!

—Elaine Hurd

Elsewhere...

COMMUNITY DINNER sponsored by the Jefferson County Homeless Coalition, first Sundays, **5:30 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 **4:15–4:45 p.m.** on Sunday. Leave other food in the SPC refrigerator anytime (marked Community Dinner). *Please use disposable containers, if possible.* **Next: May 6. (NOTE: changes in time.)**

ROLLING RIDGE STUDY RETREAT COMMUNITY

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

“Children of the Earth,” Overnight for children ages 6–10, and their parent, grandparent, or other adult mentor, **May 5–6.**

“Rising Rooted: Restorying the Heroine’s Journey 2018,” **June 1–3**

IMMIGRANT AND REFUGEE SUPPORT COMMITTEE

ACTION ALERT

[From the Presbyterian Church (USA) Office Of Public Witness] *...in solidarity with our siblings in Christ who have been forced to leave their homes and migrate to a strange land.*

Our world is experiencing massive upheaval and displacement due to violent conflicts, our changing climate, and corruption. We are calling on Congress to help the world’s uprooted peoples, the majority of whom are children and women. Congress must implement just and compassionate immigration policies and confront root causes of forced displacement in light of U.S. policy.

Call Congress at 202.224.3121 to be connected with your members and ask them to:

Redirect funding used for deportations, detention and border militarization, and invest instead in our communities and support for refugees, particularly for asylum seekers, children, elderly and disabled persons, and pregnant women.

Members and Friends...(more on next page)

FIRST PEW kids and kids at heart enjoy making the **Web of Life!**



CARI SIMON, new Hospitality chair, presents a basket of flowers to honor **DEBBIE ROMANO** for her service as Hospitality Chair. Debbie received a standing ovation from the congregation!

Youth...



The skit “RUTH” made its debut on Sunday, April 15. The youth navigated the Book of Ruth, a voyage from Bethlehem to Moab and back, with a message of reconciliation. It was a great hit!



The youth enjoyed a two-day, one-night stay at the Rolling Ridge Retreat House. Highlights included: campfire and S’MORES, volunteering, chucking wood, and using a leaf blower! Plus hiking in the woods for two miles to a nearby WATERFALL! Thanks to adults who came along: Season Jones and Patrick Sell. —*Morgan Sell, Youth Shepherd*

Notices...

CARING FOR LGBTQ REFUGEES AND ASYLUM SEEKERS

More Light Presbyterians are offering a Teach In series for congregations with active ministries to both LGBTQ people and refugees, and who want to be a better source of support to both. This 3-part series begins **Wednesday, May 16, 3-4 p.m.**, Fellowship Hall. Other dates are **May 30** and **June 6**. All are welcome.

SOCIAL JUSTICE MAILING LIST

As we are laying the foundations for SPC’s Social Justice Committee, we want to develop a mailing list of people who would like to be involved in this and receive information and action alerts. If you would like to be on this mailing list please send an email to: socialjusticespc@gmail.com.

IT’S RIVER TIME! SPC youth and young-at-heart are invited to canoe the Shenandoah River on Sunday May 6. Contact Morgan Sell, morganwisniewski@gmail.com, to reserve your spot. Than Hitt will discuss river ecology and conservation issues, and will provide a water quality testing demonstration. Canoes and gear will be provided by River & Trail Outfitters.

WHAT SHOULD SPC DO TO PROMOTE EARTH CARE?

We’re assembling a team to find a path forward and to get it done. And we need your ideas! Contact Than Hitt, thanhatt1@gmail.com, for more information. Thanks!



Mission...

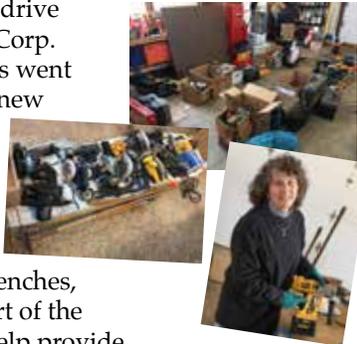
PENTECOST OFFERING Sunday, May 20. Split equally between Caring Cupboard, which supplies food to school children for the weekend; and the PCUSA Youth Mission Fund, which encourages, develops, and supports its young people, and also addresses the needs of at-risk children.

Saws, Wrenches, and Hammers, Oh My!

The first weeklong tool drive for Coalfield Development Corp. was a success! SPC members went beyond and gave funds for new tools as well as donating over 200 new and used tools to "rebuild the Appalachian economy from the ground up!"

Twenty-six saws, 86 wrenches, and 13 hammers are just part of the generosity of SPC folks to help provide opportunities for more than just employment of young men and women of southern West Virginia. They literally provided the tools for unlocking potential and creative power for transforming lives. Thanks to everyone for your contributions!

—Georgia Jeppesen



Members and Friends...



EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE
and the Easter Bunny



I thank all of you who supported me and my family with prayers, love, food and companionship after the sudden death of my husband, Kit, last summer. I feel the love of this congregation every day, and it has lightened the way forward. My gratitude and love go to all. —Debbie Romano

LINDA KELSO donated this bench, which sits by the Historic Shepherdstown Museum, in memory of Jim Price, Shepherdstown Historian Laureate, 1999, and lifelong SPC member.



BOB PROUDMAN has changed his email address from Frontier to bproudman@icloud.com. Please make a note of the change.



Enjoying Cirque du Soleil

Nurse's Notes...

SHINGLES VACCINE: DO IT AGAIN!

VACCINE

Federal officials have recommended a new shingles vaccine that is more effective than an earlier version in protecting older adults against the painful rash called shingles. The new vaccine, Shingrix, should be given in two doses, between two and six months apart, to adults who are at least 50 years old.

The guidelines recommend that people who already had the original vaccine should be revaccinated with the Shingrix. What's remarkable about the new vaccine is that the high level of immunity persists even in the very old.

Shingles is caused by the same varicella zoster that causes chicken pox. About one in three Americans will get shingles in their lifetime. In rare cases, shingles can lead to blindness, hearing loss or death. The two-shot series of Shingrix costs about \$280 and might be covered by part D of Medicare.

See you **May 6**, at my blood pressure clinic between services, 9:30–10:30 a.m.! Stay well and get that vaccination!

—Merry Morgan, RN, Parish Nurse

Financial Corner..

GENERAL FUND through April 29. Pledged for 2018: **\$285,000**. Expected to date: **\$93,173**. Actual giving: **\$101,950**. Building Fund pledged for 2018: **\$29,000**. Received to date: **\$8,865**.

EASTER OFFERING (One Great Hour of Sharing): **\$3320.65**, split between humanitarian ministries of the PCUSA and Jefferson County Community Ministries.

NEXT NEWSLETTER June 2018. Send announcements, articles, member news, and your favorite travel pictures to office@shepherdstownpresbyterian.org.
Deadline: **May 23**.

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

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