



**SPC SUMMER PICNIC**

The whole congregation together in one place at one time.

**Sunday, August 27, 5:00 p.m., at Morgan's Grove Park**

Come one, come all to the annual SPC picnic.

Great food and even better fellowship,

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: dessert;**

**I-P side dish; Q-Z: vegetable or salad**

Chicken, beverages, plates and flatware are provided.

Volunteers needed to set up at 4:30 p.m. and clean up after. Contact [office@shepherdstownpresbyterian.org](mailto:office@shepherdstownpresbyterian.org).



**ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**

**Sunday, September 10, 2017, 9:25 a.m., Sanctuary**

*All members and friends of the parish are encouraged to attend.*

Election of Elders, Deacons, and Members of Nominating Committee

*(Names and bios are in the attached document titled Nominees 2017.)*

Highlights of the past and upcoming year

Childcare available

**SUNDAY STUDIO**



**MOVING-UP SUNDAY,**  
**August 27, 10:45 service**  
Let the office know your child's grade level.

**KICKOFF September 3**

Information and registration forms are available at [shepherdstownpresbyterian.org](http://shepherdstownpresbyterian.org). Select: Education, then Children, then **Sunday Studio Parent Resources**. All children must be registered, even if you completed the form last year. Registration forms are also available in the church office and Sunday Studio classrooms. If you'd like to participate in our children's spiritual education or have any questions concerning Sunday Studio, contact Amanda Groff via [office@shepherdstownpresbyterian.org](mailto:office@shepherdstownpresbyterian.org).

**PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN**

*Women in the Bible aren't shy or retiring; they're FIERCE and funny and demanding—and relevant to 21st century people!*

This fall the Presbyterian Women 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*. Not your little ol' church ladies usual Bible study! For example, the first chapter is "Tamar: When Sleeping with your Father-in-Law is Righteous." Pick up the book in the church office and join us as we explore the themes in this enlightening and provocative book.



Beth Rule

We usually meet the first Thursday each month, but our first gathering this fall is **Thursday, September 14, 10 a.m.**, in the Fellowship Hall. We're pleased that Beth Rule is our new moderator for this year. All women of the church are welcome.

## Transition News...

**INTERIM SEARCH** During July and August, the Interim Pastor Search Committee has interviewed several finalists for our Interim Pastor position. The committee still has several procedural tasks to complete, but hopes to bring the name of our choice to session for approval soon and to Presbytery's Pastoral Transitions Committee in September.

—Jerry Thomas, Chairperson

**LITURGY and WORSHIP** Our worship life continues to be vibrant during this transition time—through gifts of worship leadership, first pew storytelling, reflections, and summer music (not to mention all the work that continues to happen behind the scenes from our usher, sound, communion and liturgy guilds!) It never ceases to amaze me what awesome talent we have in this church! Over and over, members and visitors comment on how meaningful the services have been. I am deeply grateful for the encouragement and support we share.

—Ethel Hornbeck, Director of Spiritual Formation

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

**PASTORAL 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 [office@shepherdstownpresbyterian.org](mailto:office@shepherdstownpresbyterian.org).

## Adult Education Fall Schedule...

Our fall Sunday seminars begin **September 24, 9:25 a.m.**, in the Fellowship Hall. We are reading and discussing Marcus Borg's *Speaking Christian: Why Christian Words Have Lost Their Meaning and Power—And How They Can Be Restored*.

Marcus Borg, author of *Meeting Jesus Again for the First Time*, argues that the very language Christians use has become dangerously distilled, distorted, and disconnected from the beliefs which once underpinned it. Borg states, "Big words like *salvation, saved, sacrifice, redeemer, redemption, righteousness, repentance, mercy, sin, forgiveness, born again, second coming, God, Jesus and Bible...* have acquired meanings that are serious distortions of their biblical and traditional meanings."

He calls for a radical change to the language we use to invoke our beliefs—the only remedy that will allow the Church's words to once again ring with truth, power, and hope.

The book is available in the church office.

## SPC Monthly Activities...

**BLOOD PRESSURE CLINIC** First Sundays, 9:15–10:15 a.m., in the narthex. **Next: September 3**

**FIRST THINGS FIRST SUNDAY** Coins for relief of hunger. **Next: September 3**

**TAIZÉ SERVICE** First Wednesdays, 7 p.m., Sanctuary. *A Service of Prayer* in song, silence, candlelight. **Next: September 6**

**PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S (PW) CIRCLE** First Thursdays, 10:00 a.m., Fellowship Hall. Pick up the book, *Fierce*, in the church office. See front page of this newsletter for details. All women of the church are welcome. We are looking forward to joining again with everyone this fall. Invite a friend! **Next: September 14** (note second, not first Thursday)

**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: September 16**

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

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

**Next: September 20**

• Third Thursdays, 10–11 a.m., in Classroom #1. **Next: September 21**

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

**SUPPER GROUPS AT 6:30 p.m.**

• Moveable Feast, **Saturday, September 9**, hosted by Joan Keith.

• TGIF, **Friday, September 29**, hosted by Priscilla & Gary Deem

**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: September 24**



**SPC KNITTING 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](mailto:office@shepherdstownpresbyterian.org). **Next: August 26 & September 30**

## Notices...

**THINKING OF SINGING WITH THE CHOIR?** It is good for your mind, body, and spirit. All are welcome, and you don't have to be there every week. Rehearsals begin Tuesday, September 5, 7:30 p.m. Contact director Georgiann Toole for more details, [georgiann1@aol.com](mailto:georgiann1@aol.com).

**YELLOW RIBBONS OF PEACE** hang on the SPC fence in September to mark the month when our Meeting House served as a hospital and hospice for the wounded and dying soldiers from the Battle of Antietam, September 17, 1862.



**SHARE YOUR GARDEN SURPLUS** with others who don't have a garden. Place your surplus vegetables and fruit in boxes or bags and leave in the Fellowship Hall.



## 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: September 3**

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

Annual Work Day, **Saturday, September 2**. Gather with friends old and new for a day of invigorating work, laughter, conversation, and food!

“Ancient Wisdom for Troubled Times: In the Presence of the Old Ones,” **September 15–17**.

“Space to Write: A Weekend in the Woods to Explore Words,” **October 27–29**.

**CONSTITUTION DAY LECTURE** Ganesh Sitaraman will speak on “The Crisis of the Middle-Class Constitution.”

His presentation will be based on his recent book, described as “... a tour de force of history, philosophy, law, and politics. It makes a compelling case that inequality is more than just a moral or economic problem; it threatens the very core of our constitutional system.”

This Tom E. Moses Memorial Lecture is on **Tuesday, September 14**, 7 p.m., at the Byrd Center for Congressional History and Education, Shepherd University. Admission is free.

**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.

## Mark Your Calendar...

### PeaceFest

*A Community Gathering in the Spirit of St. Francis*

Celebrating Peace, Justice and Hope in Songs and Story

Sunday • October 1 • 7:00 p.m.

## SPC Immigrant and Refugee Support Committee

In the continuing spirit of “We Choose Welcome,” The SPC Refugee Resettlement Committee has expanded our focus to include service to immigrants in our community. We have changed our name to SPC Immigrant and Refugee Support Committee and our Vision and Mission statements below reflect that change.

The current political climate has reduced the number of refugees accepted in our country and the need for advocacy for immigrants and ethnic minorities has increased. BUT we are not giving up on help for refugees. We are supporting the new refugee resettlement area in Charleston, WV, by Episcopal Migration Services. We will keep you informed of the activities we are planning and supporting.

—Chris Madeo

### Vision

Within the next five years, SPC and the Shepherdstown community will be recognized as a welcoming community for immigrant and refugee families.

### Mission

We recognize and acknowledge the suffering of many people displaced from their homes by war and injustice. Our primary purpose is to aid immigrant and refugee families. Through charitable giving and community initiatives, we will work to position Shepherdstown as a location of choice for immigrant support and refugee resettlement in West Virginia. Through a cooperative and coordinated effort with the local community, Catholic Charities and other faith-based and allied organizations, we will help develop a robust support system. We will also encourage the community as a whole to be supportive and open to these families regardless of their country of origin, race, color, gender, age, sexual orientation, or religion.

Hello friends,

Just passing along some news from our partners in Bluefields, Nicaragua. I would love to be there and walk the path connecting the school and church through the forest and across wetlands and see the orphanage and farm.

Prayers for our partners and thanks to the SPC community for its continuing support for our school child that we sponsor, Jimmy, pictured below.

—Thanks, Kay Schultz



Jimmy is 6 years old and is in first grade. He has two sisters. He loves to read, write and run. When he grows up and graduates, he wants to be president of Nicaragua someday.

## Mission...

SEPTEMBER COLLECTION for Shenandoah Women's Center: school supplies, including pencils, crayons, spiral notebooks, glue sticks, scissors, and backpacks. They also need paper towels, toilet paper, laundry detergent, dishwashing soap, and sanitary products.

*Editor's note: Place items in the bushel baskets in narthex or office foyer.*

## SAFE SPACE DROP-IN CENTER

JCCM (Jefferson County Community Ministries) is setting up a Safe Space Drop-In-Center for many of our neighbors with no place to be, particularly at times when most places are closed. It's also for those who are in unwelcoming or unsafe places and would benefit from a place that offers unconditional acceptance, a few smiles, a cup of coffee, and perhaps a bit more.

Volunteers are needed for 3-hour shifts beginning **Sunday, September 3**, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. We hope eventually to open on Saturdays as well.

Training for this is **Thursday, August 24**, 7 p.m., at JCCM, 238 W. Washington St, Charles Town. To volunteer and for more information, please email Kaz Feldstein at [kazjccm@gmail.com](mailto:kazjccm@gmail.com).

## Members and Friends...



**Sarah Hammond and Sean Chapelle**, married on May 20, are pictured here with Sarah's brother Andy and mother Debbie.

**Chris and Pete Madeo** in Norway, donning sweaters knitted by their host.



My mother's passing was very peaceful. Before she took her last breath, she reached her arms up, smiling, and met the outstretched arms of her Lord. I am at peace as well, knowing mother is where she wanted to be. Mother loved the people of SPC. She had told me many times how warm and welcomed she had been made to feel. That out-pouring of love toward mother made me so proud to be a part of this congregation. Thank you for the many prayers, cards, e-mails and support given to me—and the many visits made to mother while in Canterbury. I am grateful to be a member of SPC, because when I am here, I'm home. —Carol Wood

## Nurse's Notes...

### LOOSEN UP "TEXT NECK"

If you are complaining of a stiff neck, it may be due to slouching over computer screens all day. Physicians have seen a rise in this ailment, even among young people. To help release tension, try office yoga. Here's how: Sit up tall in your chair, relax your shoulders and look straight ahead. (A) Inhale and twist your head to one side, looking over your shoulder, keeping your gaze in the same direction as your nose. (B) Exhale, holding one second, then twist to the other side. Do ten reps. Then do the same breathing technique while tipping your head forward and back. Inhale and slowly look all the way up, opening your throat; hold for a second, then exhale, looking down and tucking your chin.



For caregivers of all types, please mark your calendars for **October 28** in the Fellowship Hall. We are hoping to provide some much-needed information on the different mechanisms involved in caregiving.

As always, I would like to see your smiling face at my blood pressure clinic on the first **Sunday, September 3**, 9:15–10:30!

Please contact me with any questions or concerns, [mcm@myactv.net](mailto:mcm@myactv.net) or 301.797.3931.

—Merry Morgan, RN, Parish Nurse

## Financial Corner...

GENERAL FUND through August 20. Expected to date: \$195,462 Actual giving: \$210,589. **Building Fund** pledged for 2016: \$30,885. Submitted to date: \$22,552.

NEXT NEWSLETTER October 2017 Send announcements, articles, member news, and your favorite vacation pictures to [office@shepherdstownpresbyterian.org](mailto:office@shepherdstownpresbyterian.org).

Deadline: September 20

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