

The Gateway Newsletter

Where Faith and Life Intersect at the Gateway to the City

June 2011

Let your steadfast love, O LORD, be upon us, even as we hope in you.
— Psalm 33:22

On Sunday, May 8th, we said good-bye to our associate pastor Steve Robertson and his wife Susan. CCPC has been blessed to have had Steve as associate pastor for the past seven and a half years. We prayed for him God's guidance and assured him of the presence of the Holy Spirit. We are excited for Steve and Susan, and the new adventure they begin, as they follow God's call to Minneapolis.

Just as it is an exciting time for Steve and Susan, so it is for CCPC as well. We enter a time of discernment and prayer. It is a time of change and transition. It is a time for asking questions and trusting that God will provide the answers.

As we move forward, first we will seek an Interim Associate Pastor. The position description for the Interim reflects the shift of responsibilities for church communications out of the associate pastor's areas of responsibilities to the new Communication Coordinator. The position description for the interim associate pastor adds time to the youth ministry and teaching components while maintaining a focus on pastoral care and mission. The position also includes leadership in worship including some preaching.

It is our hope that the search for an Interim Associate Pastor can proceed quickly. The Session and the Personnel Committee are forming an Associate Interim Search Committee that will begin to receive names before the end of the month. It is our goal to have a person in place for the beginning of the church year in September.

We anticipate that an Interim Associate will be with us for at least a year. This will give us time to pray and seek God's guidance for the way forward. What is God calling CCPC to do and be as we look to the future? What staff will we need in order to fulfill our particular calling?

The Visioning Task Force has been exploring the question of God's call for the future of CCPC for the past year. It identified four core beliefs and values of the congregation: being an open and welcoming church; a strong family of faith where we can find support and friendship; being of the Reformed Presbyterian tradition grounded in grace and centered in the Bible; and, putting our faith into action to work for peace and social justice. We also learned that one third of the people who come to CCPC are under twenty years old; that half our members live within three miles of the church; and that nearly forty percent of the families in our neighborhood have no faith affiliation.

The final report of the Task Force will be presented to the Session for approval at its June meeting. I will write more about the vision discerned by the Task Force once it has received session approval. The Session will be looking carefully at the staffing needs of the church to faithfully serve the vision. A clear vision to which God is calling CCPC will be our starting point.

As we go forward we pray for God's guidance and trust the Holy Spirit to lead us as we seek to follow God's call.

~ God's Blessings, Molly

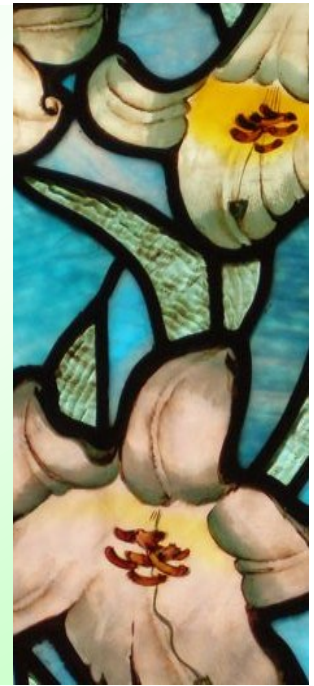


I would like to thank you, the members of the church, for the warm and wonderful way that you celebrated my time in ministry at CCPC on my last Sunday with you on May 8th. I am grateful for your thoughtful words, affirming notes and e-mails, and encouraging hugs. Your gifts—the photograph of the Resurrection Stained Glass Window, the pen set inscribed with “Doctor Robertson” (lest I ever forget!), and the generous financial “purse”—are very much treasured and appreciated. And, the Needlework Group's presentation of a custom created prayer shawl for my wife, Susan Peacock, was both personally and professionally moving. Thank you for your generosity toward us.

continued on page 2...

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

- June 5** **Easter Seven—One Service at 10:00 a.m.**
The Rev. Lynn Jostes will be preaching
 The Sacrament of Communion will be celebrated
 The TAP Pentecost Offering will be received
Music by the Chancel Choir
- June 12** **Pentecost Sunday—One Service at 10:00 a.m.**
The Rev. Molly Blythe Teichert will be preaching
 Dedication of Pentecost Offering Picnic
Music by the Carol and Junior Choirs
- June 19** **Trinity—One Service at 10:00 a.m.**
Fathers Day *The Rev. Molly Blythe Teichert will be preaching*
- June 26** **13 OT—One Service at 10:00 a.m.**
The Rev. Molly Blythe Teichert will be preaching



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As you read this, Susan and I will be enjoying a brief vacation in Florida with friends and my mother. Then we will pack for our move north. My attention will have turned to preparing worship and a sermon for the retirement centers where Westminster leads worship every other month and to other responsibilities that will be on my desk as I begin my new ministry on July 15th. However, even though the focus of my work and ministry will shift, my care and concern for you, individually and as a congregation “at the gateway to the city,” will never change. I will hold you in my prayers. And I will eagerly await news of the exciting ministry opportunities to which God will

PENTECOST PICNIC

Church Courtyard
Sunday, June 12, 2011
following 10:00 a.m. worship

Please join us for picnic fare and fellowship with your church family.

A donation of \$5 per adult age 12 and up, \$3 per child age 4-11, children 3 and under eat free (\$25.00 max per family) is requested.

Reservations are appreciated, but not required. Visit www.chevyCHASEpc.org or call 202-363-2202 to reserve.

lead CCPC in the years ahead.

Whenever you are in the Twin Cities, stop in at Westminster Presbyterian Church in downtown Minneapolis! I will look forward to visiting with you and showing you around.

~ God's Blessings, Steve



Music Notes

Julie Vidrick Evans will present an organ concert at **Church of Saint Mary The Virgin**, in New York City on Sunday, June 5 at 4:30 p.m. and will be giving a recital and teaching for the **American Guild of Organists** in Wilmington, DE the week of June 19-24.



Joann Moorer, Assistant Director of Music and lyric soprano will sing in the ensemble cast for Bel Cantanti Opera Company's production of Gounod's *Romeo and Juliette* May 29, June 3, 5, 10 and 12. All performances will take place at the Jewish Community Center of Greater Washington, 6125 Montrose Road, Rockville, MD. Please refer to www.belcantanti.com for ticket prices and information. All are cordially invited.



The Carol and Junior Choirs will sing **Pentecost Sunday**, June 12 and will be recognized in worship for their year of participation. Joann Moorer would like to thank all children, youth and adult singers as well as parents, instrumentalists and bell ringers who contributed to a fantastic year of music making together. What a blessing it has been to worship and work at CCPC. Can't wait till next year!

Chevy Chase Concerts 40th Anniversary Season Concludes

Thank you!

I'd like to express my sincere thanks to all the musicians and volunteers who participated in creating the final concert of our 40th Anniversary year. It has been a wonderful year, blessed with God's gift of music, musicians and dedicated volunteers.

~Julie Vidrick Evans

Take Home the Memory!

Concert recordings are available for the 40th anniversary season. Please email Julie Evans at julie@chevyCHASEPC.org if you are interested in purchasing a professional recording of the 40th anniversary gala concert, featuring Requiem by Maurice Durufle, and Francis Poulenc's Concerto for Organ, Strings and Timpani. The cost of the CD is \$15.00, made payable to Chevy Chase Concerts.



Summertime Learning at CCPC

Summertime offers a different rhythm to our lives and learning. The CE Committee invites you to select one of these options (on the lighter side) at CCPC on selected Sundays this summer:

Window Talks

**June 26, July 10 & 24, August 7
11:30 – 12:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary**

Have you ever wondered about the beautiful stained glass that fills our sanctuary with light and color? When were they made? Who made them? What stories do they tell? Come find out in an hour-long guided tour of the windows led by members of the congregation.

Film Screening: “Harry Potter and the Sorcerer’s Stone”

**Sunday, August 21
11:30 a.m. in Geneva Hall**

In “Harry Potter and the Sorcerer’s Stone” (rated PG) we are transported into a world in which magic is a part of life, at least for the few who are gifted with its powers. We are taken into the world of Hogwarts Academy and see how Harry Potter and his new friends are faced with decisions that most adults (let alone children) never have to make, as they find themselves under attack in the war between good and evil. When the novels and films were first released, some Christians attacked them on the basis that the Scriptures tell us to have nothing to do with magic and witchcraft; and that reading or viewing could lead young readers into accepting practices that are inherently evil. Most church leaders, however, are aware that even children know that the stories are make-believe and that they very definitely teach positive values. Children (and adults) of all ages are invited to come view and discuss the actions and motives of Harry, Ron, Hermione, and Professor Dumbledore. Popcorn and snacks will be served!

Summer Church School Plans at CCPC

FOR CHILDREN: As we worship as one church family at 10:00 a.m. throughout the summer, we will welcome children (completed Grade 3 and up) to remain in the Sanctuary following the Time with Children, to experience the rhythm and wonder of worship. Beginning June 5 and continuing through the month of June, younger children (Age 3 through completed Grade 2) are invited (but not required) to go to special church school classes for the rest of the hour. Ages 3-4 will meet in Room 180, 5s/Kindergarten in Room 170, and Grades 1 and 2 (completed) will meet in Room 160 on the first floor in the Education Building. Childcare for infants is available in Rooms 106 and 108.

FOR ADULTS: Faith Trek is planning to meet during the summer (except on holiday weekends) to discuss issues of faith and life. All adults are invited to join their summer discussions. Questions? Contact Margaret Chan (301-656-5034). Please Join Us in the Library (on the first floor of the center building, alley side) from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. each Sunday.

2010-2011 Education Leadership

Educational Ministry at CCPC doesn't just happen, but is a high-energy, intentional effort by many people who share our faith and tradition. We commission these persons as they begin or continue in service in the educational leadership of our church. Please greet them when you see them and thank them for their faithfulness this year.

Church School Teachers and Substitutes And Educational Leaders/Planners

Toddlers & 2's – Patty and Rafe Petersen, Adeline Vanderver, Bethany Velasco, Suzanne Stievater, Heidi Kong, Anne and Casey Mace, and parent helpers

3's - Sue Martin, Priscilla Rawlins, Kathryn Williams, Kristine Lindsey, Debbie Bannister, and parent helpers

4's – Carol Lukaczer, Christine Enemark, Heidi/Mel Kong, Kristine Lindsey, Jenifer McCormick, Katherine Fudge, and sub Chris Nusbaum

5's & Kindergarten – Trish Boggs, Sarah Grantham, Alice Sindahlsen, Melody Soopper, Halle Majchrjak, and sub Rebecca Nichols

1st Grade – Fred Atwood, Kevin Carlson, Lee Ann Graeb, Lauren and Mark Fernandez, Connie Rhind Robey, and subs Sally Gaffney and Amy Bijeau

2nd Grade – Christina Hudson, Paul Teichert, Paula and Katherine Fudge, Kirsten Anderson, Deanna Troust, Vanessa Harris, sub Chris Nusbaum

3rd & 4th Grade – Linda Ertz, Ashley Mills, Emily Mazzella, Brad Shingleton, Ed and Mimi Gehres

5th Grade – Britt Reynolds, Tom Morgan, Ken Cantwell, Chris Hersman, Vanessa Harris

6th, 7th & 8th Grade – Tom Jordan, Janet St. Amand,

Susan Dentzer, Yvette Rose

9th – 12th Grade – Emily Dutterer, Nicholas Klinger, Catherine DePeuter, Jenny Brooks, Emily Ethridge, and sub John Yahner

The Bible in Context Class – Peter Combes and John Weicher

Faith Trek – Margaret Chan (coordinator)

FOCUS Planning Team – Peter Combes, Dennis Leister, John Weicher, Theresa Walker, Julie Haifley, Lynn Jostes

Church School Administration - Co-Coordinators Kristen Riley and Chris Ertz

Nursery Coordinators - Kristen Riley and Anne Mace

Youth Advisors/Support – Carol Lukaczer, Janet St. Amand, John Yahner, Tracy Hadden Loh, Jennifer Griffin and Becky Wood

Friends of the Library - Mary Lee Maples, Sue Martin, Grace Hyslop, Christel Carlson

Christian Education Committee – Britt Reynolds (co-chair), Linda Ertz (co-chair), Tracy Hadden Loh, Jean Cohen, Mary Finch, Sue Martin, Tom Morgan, Kristen Riley, Jennifer Griffin, Becky Wood, Lynn Jostes



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION



Hearthstones & Firesides Fall Planning!

Youth group activities planning for the 2011/2012 school year has begun! Now we need YOU to help us!

We are currently looking for **dedicated adult volunteers to help plan and lead** the upcoming school year's events for our **Hearthstones** (grades 6-8) and **Firesides** (grades 9-12) youth groups. There are many opportunities for participation including **weekly youth group leadership, special event leadership, food preparation, transportation and more!** If you are interested in getting involved in the dynamic youth group programs CCPC offers, please contact our **Youth Ministries Associate, Becky Wood, at becky@chevyhchasepc.org.**

A Salute to Julie Combes For Building Up the ESL Program

By Mary-Margaret Patterson

After she retired in 2004 from a decade of teaching English as a Second Language for Montgomery County, Julie Combes found herself back in the classroom here at church on Sunday afternoons. Eventually she faced upwards of 30 adults each week from over 14 countries who need to learn English and often have no one with whom to practice.

In the intervening six years the petite woman with the shy smile and pleasing English accent built on the long-lasting CCPC program that began more than 35 years ago. She enriched it with help from her husband Peter, who is well known in the church for a popular Biblical scholarship class he taught for many years.

The couple, both graduates of Cambridge University in England who have lived in the U.S. for 31 years, have been members of CCPC for 17 years. They reluctantly left the ESL program quite recently to live near a daughter in Virginia because Julie's health no longer permits her to work. Since Julie's departure, Gene de la Torre has coordinated the program. He was recruited by his wife Sue, who taught in the program in earlier days.

"Having to give it all up has left a huge gap in our lives," Julie says. But she can look back on a job well done that points the way toward a good future for continuing ESL here.

For these past six years, CCPC has had the benefit of Julie's rich

experiences that uniquely suited her to ESL. After majoring in English literature, she lived in Ghana, Colombia and finally Mexico for eight years where she received ESL training from the British Council and began teaching at the Anglo-American Institute there and tutoring privately.

ESL participants come to our church's program by word of mouth; there is no advertising. They



Julie with an ESL student

range in age from those in their 20's to grandparents in their 60's. Some come from the diplomatic or international business community; others are live-in homemakers or nannies, au pairs, restaurant workers and laborers. Some have been in the U.S. for only a few months; others have lived here for 20 years. Some have college educations from their home countries; a few are illiterate in their native tongues.

But their desire to learn English is so strong that some take two buses to come to CCPC. Other are dropped off by employers with whom they live. Many speak only their native language during their work days which can be long. Sunday is often their only day off.

Recent ESL students have come from ten Latin American countries—Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Paraguay and Peru. The original program was called the Latin American Program, but as globalization has advanced students have become a veritable United Nations including natives of Africa (Ethiopia, Egypt, Ivory Coast, Nigeria and Sudan); the Middle East (Algeria, Jordan, and Tunisia); Asia (Bangladesh, China, Japan, Sri Lanka and Vietnam); Europe (Hungary, Poland, Russia and Slovakia) as well as the Islands of Cape Verde and Mauritius.

They are of different religious persuasions including Islam and Catholicism.

Not surprisingly, English is the common bond.

Under Julie's design, CCPC's ESL program emphasizes practice in context, reading, and listening as well as speaking. Like other tutors in the program through the years, she and Peter used some prepared materials in the church files, but often created their own topical and historical material for discussion, rather than just using exercises from books. They downloaded new materials from the Internet and introduced videos including a series about life in the U.S. with on-screen subtitles.

They tried to incorporate computer use, distribution of CD's and materials for MP3 players whenever they could, although Peter regrets that these innovations were often hard to sustain without more resources.

continued on page 8...

Thank you to the congregation for the generous response to the recent collection for relief following the earthquake and tsunami in Japan.



A total of 169 hygiene kits were prepared and sent to Church World Service. Thank you to the Hearthstones and Firesides youth groups who helped to collate and pack the hygiene kits and to Campbell and Joy Graeb for delivering them to New Windsor, Maryland.

A total of \$3240 was also collected for relief, and that money has been sent to the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance for continued support of relief work.

Pentecost Offering for TAP

The Mission Committee has designated the Transition Assistance Program (TAP), CCPC's on-site outreach effort, the beneficiary of the June 12 Pentecost Offering.

At TAP, people coming for help are met by volunteer greeters, asked to fill an intake form, and given juice and a sandwich. Then either the contracted outreach worker, Juan Carlos Benevides, or a volunteer interviews the client and evaluates how TAP can provide assistance.

CCPC is well known for the help TAP provides to persons who need basic identification documents, such as birth certificates and non-driver's ID, but TAP also provides a breadth of other services:

- TAP provides assistance with transportation to new jobs, since wages are often paid only after a period of time at the position. Tap bridges that gap by providing fare cards.
- In 2010 TAP linked LensCrafters' Gift of Sight

program with 100 people who had prescriptions but no money for glasses.

- Used clothing, donated by church members, provide TAP clients with clothing suitable for a job interview.
- Emergency groceries are also provided from donations and purchases.



Contributions to the Pentecost Offering will ensure that the Transition Assistance Program is able to sustain its mission of helping homeless, and working with poor residents of the D.C. metropolitan area in their struggle to become self-sufficient.

Last year 40 TAP volunteers served 862 people, referred by over 90 local organizations. TAP looks forward to another successful year!

For more information on TAP, see the 2010 annual report on line at the church's web site (www.chevyCHASE.org).

...continued from page 6

Julie tested the students and placed them in half a dozen small groups according to ability. The goal is for a number of volunteer tutors to keep the tutor/student ratio about 1:5. At any one time, the program now has a stable of some six or seven tutors though faces change as volunteers come and go.

Like a portrait of the America they represent, the volunteer tutors also are a varied group. They include at least one Ph.D., some with roots in the Peace Corps, a university senior, two journalists, teachers, retirees and a paralegal. Some are CCPC members; others not. The age range is from 21 to 92!

Julie continued the classes through the summer months rather than breaking for vacation as previously and she started the classes earlier. They now last from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. which allows time before and after for camaraderie and informal extra practice whenever volunteers are available.

Once a month, many of the volunteers and students try to eat lunch together at Soup, Salad and Sandwich gatherings. A few have attended Chevy Chase Concerts

after class. There are holiday parties and a Christmas celebration.

Every single social opportunity is a chance to practice English, to learn about the U.S., and make friends from other countries and with Americans.

Dottie Boerner, who holds a doctorate in English literature and coordinated the ESL program for ten years before Julie arrived, views the social aspects of the program as critical.

“Just knowing that some people cared enough to teach them and that they could have interaction with the other students were very important,” says Dottie who came to feel that not too much could be accomplished toward mastering English in just one class a week.

But the class has been a leg up for many in the study of English.

During Dottie’s tenure, the beginners’ class star was a 20-year-old mother who first came to the program only a few weeks from leaving her small Nigerian village. Illiterate in her native language, she worked hard inside and out of class and learned not only to speak credible English, but to recite the alphabet and then to read simple texts.



A 30-year-old single woman from Tunisia with a similar educational deficit learned the alphabet and to speak and write her name.

“There were a number who came to us speaking virtually no English and progressed to being capable of conversation,” Julie recalls.

She also notes there has been a high retention rate. “Some students remained in the program for several years—some still remain,” she says.

Overall, Julie says she and Peter were encouraged “to see the rapport that developed between students and between students and tutors, and their growing willingness to use English to communicate among themselves, to arrive early for class, and to interact with each other.

“This was particularly impressive when it involved students of different home languages,” she adds. “To see people from different cultures communicating in English was encouraging; we are grateful that there are people at CCPC who will carry on the program.”



GRADUATING STUDENTS LOOK AHEAD...

CCPC congratulates high school and college students who have reached the important milestone of graduation! Please keep all these people in your prayers as they complete their studies at this time. At press time, the following information had been obtained:

Our High School Graduates

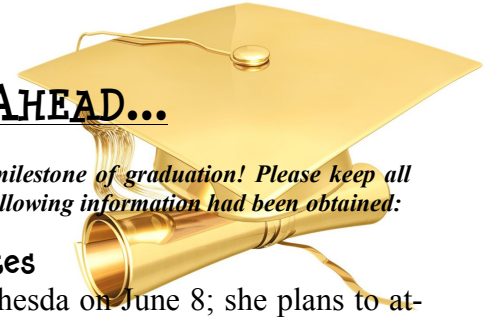
- **Lily Anderson** graduates from Stone Ridge School in Bethesda on June 8; she plans to attend the University of California in Los Angeles, CA and will study physics.
- **Susannah Baird** graduates from Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School on June 2; she plans to attend the University of Alabama to study music education in the fall.
- **Katie Carome** graduates from National Cathedral School on June 12; she plans to attend Boston College to study biology.
- **Rebecca Curtis** graduates from Walt Whitman High School in Bethesda on June 14; she plans to attend the Rice University in Houston and is undecided on a major.
- **Benjamin Duff** graduates from St. Albans School on June 11; he plans to attend the Rhode Island School of Design (RISD) in Rhode Island and is undecided on a major.
- **Celia Garrity** graduates from Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School on June 2; she plans to attend Vassar College in New York and is undecided on a major.
- **Christopher Garrity** graduates from Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School on June 2; he plans to attend Colorado College in Colorado Springs, CO and is undecided on a major.
- **Connor Garrity** graduates from Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School on June 2; he plans to attend Kenyon College in Ohio and is undecided on a major.
- **Jackie Koskey** graduates from Wheaton High School on June 6; she will attend Rice University in Houston and is undecided on a major.
- **Adrienne Larson** graduates from the National Cathedral School on June 12; she plans to take a gap year to do volunteer work, hopefully in West Africa or Haiti.
- **Annie Lindahl** graduates from the National Cathedral School on June 12; She plans to attend Hamilton College in New York in the fall.
- **Elizabeth Stone** graduates from School Without Walls High School on June 13; she plans to attend Roehampton University in England in the fall to study Anthropology.

Our College & Graduate School Graduates

- **Timothy Pratt** graduated in June 2010 from the University of Pittsburgh with a B.S. degree in Civil Engineering. He is currently in search of a job.
- **Patrick Leibach** has graduated from the Columbia Law School on May 15th and will be an associate with Jones-Day in New York in the fall.
- **Joann Moorer**, Assistant Director of Music at CCPC, recently received her Master of Music degree in Vocal Performance from the Peabody Institute of the Johns Hopkins University. She will continue in her position at CCPC.

Join Us As We Connect Our Families!

The Connections Committee is partnering with Lifetouch for professional photography that will connect our members and tell our story in a new pictorial directory for CCPC! Photographs will be taken in September and November (in time for Christmas purchases); and sign-up for one-hour sessions for you and your family will begin in August. Watch for more details and plan to be part of this exciting project!



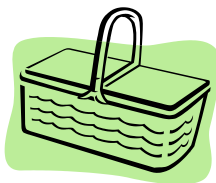
Summer Sunday School Teachers Sought!!

Summer Sunday School begins on June 5 and continues through Homecoming Sunday, September 11, during the 10:00 a.m. worship service. Two to three classes for young children through second grade (completed) will be available, but only with your help. Teams of teachers are needed for each age group. A simple curriculum is provided to facilitate your teaching. Please check your calendar and see which Sunday you might be able to help! Sign up sheets will be posted in Chadsey Hall in April-May during Sunday Brunch and Coffee Time for your convenience. You may also contact Kristen Riley (202-237-8336 or kriley8@msn.com) or Lynn Jostes (202-363-2202 x 22 or lynn@chevychasepc.org) for more information or to sign up for this special opportunity to teach our youngest children. Thanks for your help!!



SAVE THE DATE!

All-Church Pot-Luck Picnic



Sunday, July 31, 2011 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.
At the Church Playground

Sponsored by the CE Committee

THE NEXT ISSUE OF THE GATEWAY WILL BE A COMBINED JULY/AUGUST SUMMER EDITION. Please submit announcements for July & August no later than Wednesday, June 8. Email submissions to jamie@chevychasepc.org. You can also deliver hard copies to the church office.

Chevy Chase Presbyterian Church

“Where Faith and Life Intersect”

gateway

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