



NEWSLETTER

Boyd's Presbyterian Church

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No.5



A Reminder...



On **Mother's Day, May 13**, all women attending church will receive a potted plant and a special pin. This is a wonderful church tradition of recognition. Consider bringing your grandmother, mother or daughter to church. In 1914, President Woodrow Wilson made an official announcement proclaiming **Mother's Day** as a national holiday to be held each year on the second Sunday of May. The **carnation** was selected as the Mother's Day flower; it represents sweetness, purity, and the enduring quality of a Mother's love.



Vacation Bible School: June 18-22nd The theme this year is "Lift Off! Soaring to New Heights with God." All children ages 3 years through the 6th grade are invited. Registration cards can be found in the sanctuary, P-W Hall, and education building. Please register by May 15. If you are available to help with VBS, contact Jennifer Schrock (301-972-5552) or Deanna Tucker (301-540-2544).

Meditation

(The significance of Easter in the life of a Christian is the bedrock of faith. The following excerpt is from an article by Walter J. Burghardt, S. J., titled 'I Do': Death as Final Free Surrender. He asks three questions: (1) What does it mean for a human being to die? (2) What did it mean for Christ to die? (3) What should it mean for a Christian to die?)

III

What does it mean for a Christian to die? Death does not cease to be death. An "I" is lost to the world and a "thou" to survivors. But more importantly death is life. Not only shall I not die altogether, totally, utterly; that is true, but frightfully negative. In consequence of Calvary, death is that unique point between time and timelessness when the Spirit of Christ, the Spirit of life, can take permanent possession of my spirit, without my earthbound resistance, until the risen Christ summons my risen flesh to the fullness of humanity. That is why the Christian can cry with St. Paul, "For me, life is Christ, and [therefore] death is gain" (Phil 1:21).

There is more. For a Christian, death should not be simply something that inevitably happens. Dying, in a theological sense, begins when living begins; we share in Jesus' dying by sharing his cross through the whole of our lives. Unless we do, we cannot be his disciples (Matt 10:38; 16:24; Mark 8:34, Luke 14:27). Whatever falls under the rubric of suffering should be part and parcel of our Christian dying. And the final cross, to be completely Christian, dare not be sheer resignation, that is, I cannot do anything about it, and so I give in. Death should be the final, decisive act of human freedom, where I accept in love the mystery that is God, where I put the final seal on my personal history, my personal destiny.

In two momentous monosyllables, dying is a Christian's final "I do," I die. Such was the ultimate act of an earthbound Jesus as John tells it: "Bowing his head, he handed over [his] spirit" (John 19:30); he committed his spirit, entrusted it, to his Father. He made this clear in the famous

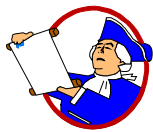
discourse on the good shepherd: "I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it [or, has taken it] from me; rather, I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again." (John 10:17-18)

Disciple of Jesus, in dying I entrust my spirit to a loving Father. It is a free act; no one takes my life from me; I surrender myself unconditionally to the mystery of God's love and mercy. Believing, hoping, loving, I now enter fully into the dying of Jesus. And in dying with him, I embrace ... life!

Thoughts: Remember that you have only one soul; that you have only one death to die; that you have only one life, which is short and has to be lived by you alone; and that there is only one glory, which is eternal. If you do this, there will be many things about which you care nothing. ---Teresa of Avila (16th century)

Remember that what you possess in the world will be found at the day of your death to belong to another, but what you are will be yours forever. ---Henry van Dyke.

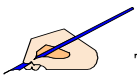
Scripture Lessons: Very truly, I tell you, whoever keeps my word will never see death (John 8:51). To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace (Romans 8:6). The last enemy to be destroyed is death (I Corinthians 15:26). We know that we have passed from death to life because we love one another. Whoever does not love abides in death (John 3:14).



Announcements



Nicholas William Ariola, son of Matt and DeAna (Burr) Ariola, was born on March 30, weighing 8lbs. 4oz.



The **Writer's Group** meets on the last Tuesday of each month. The next meeting is **Tuesday, May 29 at 7:30 p.m.** in Pollock-Williams Hall. For information, contact Libby Schleichert at epschleichert@yahoo.com or 301-540-2177.

The **BPC Lunch Bunch** meets on the second Tuesday of each month. This month, they will meet on Tuesday, May 8 at 11:30 a.m. For time and location, call Betty Allnutt, 301-349-5304.



The **Mission and Merriment** group will meet May 14 and 28 at 11 a.m. in Pollock-Williams Hall. For more information call Jane Mote or Ginger Gibson.



The **2007 Coed Church Softball** Season officially began on Sunday, April 22. We lost the first game by forfeit to Mother Seton Sluggers, but won 15 to 14 beating last year's champions Good News Bears (Seneca Creek Community Church). If you would like to play for the 'Flock of Boyds' call interim coach Merritt Ednie at 301-540-2544.



The Executive Staff of the Dwelling Place cordially invites you to the **15th Annual Carnival of Chocolate and Auction** on Sunday, May 6, 2007 from 3:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. at Black Rock Center for the Arts, 12901 Town Commons Drive Germantown, MD. Ticket price: \$35.00 in advance; \$40.00 at the door. The Dwelling Place, Inc. is a goal-oriented transitional housing program developed to provide the time and the support families need to acquire the personal resources necessary to achieve self-sufficiency.



Congratulations to **Kerry Gorey** who will graduate from **James Madison University** on May 5 with a B.A. degree in history and a minor in criminal justice.



Church Directory changes

Barrier, Sandy
4645 Weston Place
Olney, MD 20832

Shigo, Jack and Kathy
1045 Creek View Drive
Whitefish, Montana 59937
406-730-2312



Stewardship ... a partnership with God!



Appreciation and gratitude: for the special music provided by **the choir** during the Holy Week and Easter Services: Nancy Knott, Mark Cantwell Norma Jean Warfield, , Claudette Romano, Rowland and Linda New, and Jane Dassen; for **cleaning the church sanctuary in April:** Carlin and Grace Turner; for **hosting fellowship in April:** Walt and Audrey Prichard, Hammet and Jeri Hough; for **mulching and cleaning the church grounds:** Linda and Rowland New, Mike and Carol Slingsluff, Bill Graf, Bill Neeb, John Burdette, Jim and Mark Pederson, Banu Gracey, Mark Cantwell, Dee and Andy Smith, Arthur Virts, Nancy & Joe Knott, Mark Scafide, Dennis Davison, Judy Briggs, Marj Turbyfill, Bailey Bodell, Christine Wilson; for **teaching Sunday school on Palm Sunday:** Carol Beale, Alisa Mitchell, Connie Woolcock, and Laura Scafide; **setting up the Sunrise Service benches on Sugarloaf Mountain:** John Burdette, Bill Graf, Lynnlee and Skylar Jewell, Jeff, Samuel, and Adam Leaman, Bill Leaman, Terry Donovan, Mike Slingsluff, Marolyn Curry, John Love, Mel Leach, Randy Gilliam, Doug Smith, Dave, Michael and Kate Christensen, Jim and Mark Pedersen; **taking down the benches:** David Heisler, David Christensen, John Burdette, Lon Santis, John Love, and Eric Linares (Pastor Merritt supervised!); for **taking pictures** of spring cleanup, bench building, and the Confirmation Class, Mike Slingsluff; for **painting church hand rails**, Steve Raffé.



Praise the Lord! We are growing spiritual in our response to the special Lenten offering known as the **One Great Hour of Sharing**. Our goal this year was \$4,000 and we gathered \$4,428.36. Here is a five year comparison: 2002 -- \$2,578.87; 2003 -- \$2,885.22; 2004 -- \$3,077.49; 2005 -- \$2,617.28; -2006 \$4,324.43. One hundred percent of this offering goes to helping people nationally and globally.



Christian Education



Come to Sunday School! We are in the third quarter of study for the 2006-2007 school year. **Promotion Day Lift Off** is June 10 at 9:30 a.m. in the church sanctuary when the children will receive their certificates and children going from third grade to fourth grade will receive their Bibles. The celebration will soar your spirits to new heights with God!!



The Order of Confirmation: On Monday, April 2, seven young people were received by the Session into church membership by profession of faith; they were welcomed by the congregation on Confirmation Sunday, April 15: Allie Karta, Lynnlee Jewell, Ashleigh Jones, Amanda Jones, Robert Smith, Kyle Tucker, and Robert Hoffmann. Praise God! What a glorious day in the life of our church!



Every one is invited to attend the **Adult Sunday School** class. In May, the class will study the following: May 6 - "Jesus Chooses Our Weapons," (*Mark 9:14-29*); May 13 - "Jesus Supplies Our Strength" (*Matthew 28:16-20, Acts 1:1-8*); May 20 - "Jesus Secures Our Victory," (*John 12:20-36*); May 27 -- "Jesus, Celebrates Our Triumph," (*Luke 10:16-24*) The class meets in the education building library at 9:30 a.m. Class information: contact Marj Turbyfill at 301-972-0265 or mdmarj@earthlink.net.



The **Adult Study Group** meets every Thursday from 7:30 to 9:00. The group currently is engaged in a ten week series of life sessions with Phillip Yancey and other individuals sharing their stories of grace. Each session opens with a twelve-minute video that serves as the basis for discussion. For information, contact Dick Ernst at 301-540-2143 or dickernst48@yahoo.com



Prayer List

Prayers for those who grieve: the family of **Mary Naylor** who died April 20; the family of **George Jewell**, Todd Jewell's father who died on April 23; the family of **Christine Cantler Borden**, who died on April 22.

Prayers for those who need comfort: Henri Dassen; Jan Burdette; Sam Renfrew; Arthur Leach; Lois Holda, Mary Clark's mother; Gail King, Sarah Gamage's mother; Bill and Helen Owens; Jeri Hough; Betty Hartline; Delores Jeter; Ann Schmidt; Lydia Rock; Fred Barrios; Johnette Schuller; Chris Stevens; Gordon Hungerford; Barbara Beard; Helen Epting; Benoni Allnutt.

Military personal: Mike Jones' brother, Major David Jones, deployed to Bosnia; all military and civilian personal serving in Iraq and Afghanistan; those recovering from their wounds; particularly Christopher Claude, Geraldine Barte's grandson.

Global Prayers: the people of Darfur, Sudan, Sri Lanka, Somalia, Iraq, Afghanistan, pray for peace in the Middle East.



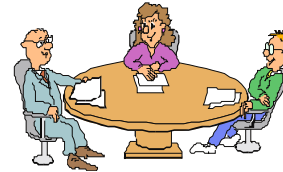
Dear Boyds Presbyterian Church,

Mark and I just wanted to thank you and the Church for your generous donation to 4 Paws for Ability for Justice. We are getting his dog in September! Yes, we will be getting a beautiful, sweet and very smart Yellow Lab that Justice has decided to call "Lady". He is very excited as are we. The whole family will go to Ohio in September for 11 days of intensive training with his new dog. We can't begin to tell you how much it means to our family and we are very grateful for all your support. Thank you, Thank you, Thank You!

Thanks again and our best regards,

Mark and Laura Lambert (and Justice too)

Easter Basket Project: Edna Reffit, Arthur and Mary Virts made and delivered 13 Easter baskets filled with goodies! At one of the homes the recipient had a bowl on the mantle filled with palm crosses from past years. Also 13 flowers were sent to distant friends of the church. This is a rewarding tradition and people look forward to the church's visits each holiday season.



Session, Trustees, and Deacons

The **Session** met on April 2, 2007. The main item of business was to examine the members of the Confirmation Class and to receive them into church membership; reviewed the Holy Week and Easter services; reviewed notes from the Sunday School staff meeting and accepted recommendations for this year's Vacation Bible School; discussed the topic of evangelism while reviewing a draft church brochure. Next meeting: Monday, May 7 at 7:00 p.m. in P-W Hall.

The **Board of Deacons** met on April 9, 2007. They read several thank you notes from mission projects, revised their usher schedule; evaluated duties during Holy Week; reviewed local mission allocations; further discussed the topic of evangelism and outreach. Next meeting: Monday, April 9 at 7:30 p.m. in Pollock-Williams Hall.

The **Board of Trustees** met on April 17. They reported that new vertical blinds were installed in Kerr Fellowship Hall (\$1,598); a new submersible water plumb and plumbing was installed in the education building ((\$2,474); a successful cleanup day; further discussed manse repairs and reviewed floor and kitchen contracts; agreed on the appliances and changes to the kitchen in Kerr Fellowship Hall which will be installed on August 2, 3, and 4th. The next meeting is Tuesday, April 17 at 7:00 p.m. in Pollock-Williams Hall.



An Irish Blessing

May the saddest day of your future be no worse than the happiest day of your past.



Worship Attendance

| April | Adults | Child | Teens | 2007 | 2006 |
|------------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|
| 1 st | 101 | 5 | 1 | 107 | 105 |
| 8 th | 160 | 44 | 17 | 221 | 112 |
| 15 th | 88 | 9 | 12 | 109 | 224 |
| 22 nd | 67 | 1 | 6 | 74 | 128 |
| 29 th | 69 | 4 | 0 | 73 | |



Smiles

Questions that were asked of 2nd graders:

What would make your mom perfect? Diet. You know, her hair. I'd diet, maybe blue.

If you could change one thing about your mom, what would it be? I would like for her to get rid of those invisible eyes on the back of her head.

Why did God give you your mother and not some other mom? God knew she likes me a lot more than other people's moms like me.



Monthly Newsletters and calendars, as well as sermons can be found on the church's website www.boydspc.org