

Ashland Church News

May 2016

Ashland Presbyterian Church
116 Ashland Road,
Cockeysville, MD 21030
Phone: 410-527-1844

The Rev. Shannon Meacham

On the web at: www.ashlandpc.org



Clerk of Session
Bob Williams

Church Treasurer
Jeannette Baldwin

**Session Members
2016-2018**

Jerry DeBoer
Rene Florendo
Debbie Modisette
Will Nassau
Gene Ruhl
Jacquie Sasser
Carla Ulgen
John Walter
Bob Williams

**Deacon Members
2016-17**

Sarah Beckwith
Penny DeBoer
Cathy Griffiths
Barbara Porter
JoAnn Ruther
Cheri Wheeler

Pre-school Director
Anne Auvil

Interim Music Director
Charles Corson

Office Manager
Cecil Weber

Pulpitshenanigans

How often do you work out 60-90 minutes a week? Are you: Vigorous (5-7 days a week), Active (3-5 days a week), Moderate (1-3 days), Inactive (sporadic to never) Every time I answer this question I feel bad about myself. I click "Moderate" but in my life right now that is wishful thinking. Honestly for the majority of my life it's been wishful thinking.

I was never a sports girl, and my summer babysitters could encourage us staying inside and watching tv. I swam, but after swim team practice most of my time was spent laying around the pool and drinking sugary drinks and waiting for my next snack.

No really.

A few years ago I made some life changes, and thanks to medical advancements, helped to subside some genetic disorders that kept some weight on. After I had lost some weight I found it easier to exercise. I found it easier to do a lot of things, like walk up and down stairs. It's amazing what 10 pounds can even do!

Pulpitshenanigans (continued)

Losing weight is great, but I needed to be healthy, which means, active. For me, calories in and calories out did not equal a steady weight, it still doesn't, my body works against me. Yet, I admit that as the scale has crept up in the last year, I use this as an excuse. It is easy to get caught in a victim mentality when you have a disorder that keeps you fat.

Here's what doctors, trainers, and well... anyone says, "Find some exercise you love, then it won't feel like work."

You know what I love? Sitting on the couch and eating cookies. Laying by the pool with a good book. You know what else I like? Butter and warm rolls. Laying in a hammock on a sunny day. Sure, I like walks too, but slow ones on a beach and then a drink full of juice and an umbrella on top.

You know what I don't like? Exercise. So when "everyone" tells me to find a workout I love so it won't feel like work I smile and nod and think, riiiiight. I mean sometimes I sit on the patio because I'm too lazy to walk across the yard and climb into the hammock (which is a good core workout for those 3 seconds, by the way).

No seriously, it's not in my blood. Working out, exercise, being active is a chore for me. And that's okay.

One of the things I need to get through my thick scull is that exercise is not just for losing weight, it's for always. Always and forever. We were meant to be active people. It's fine that I want to relax, that's good for my soul, but so is exercise.

As the spring has warmed my days it has also warmed my heart to "get back out there". Recently some of you have asked about my hiking at Oregon Ridge, well, here's what I have to say, "Wanta join me?" The NCR trail starts right across the street, how about a few of us get together and walk a mile or too?

So many of us experience God in the outdoors, but God also lives within us, in our physical bodies, and we connect when we are moving. What do you think? Shoot me an email, let's find a time good for us!

Pastor Shannon

***Mighty God of
Strength and Power,***

I praise you, Lord.

***You are worthy to be
praised.***

***You give me strength,
endurance, and
flexibility.***

***You direct my efforts
and increase my
determination.***

***You encourage me as I
seek to become
physically fit.***

***Thank you for your
mercies.***

Amen.

SARAH'S HOPE

*Please remember Sarah's Hope during one of
your next shopping trips!*



Bread
Fresh fruit
Breakfast bars
Pop tarts
Cereal
Instant oatmeal
Canned fruit (big cans)
Shelf-stable milk
Peanut butter and jelly
Soup and stews (big cans)
Frozen hot dogs
Frozen hamburgers
Hot dog & hamburger rolls

Paper cups
Paper Plates
Toothbrushes & paste
Shampoo
Deodorant
Dove Soap
Liquid Soap
Lotion
Feminine products
Razors
Baby wipes
Diapers
Formula

Granola Bars
Graham Crackers
Fruit Cups
Cookies
Plastic ware
Napkins
Laundry detergent
Aspirin
Band aids
First Aid kits
Towels & wash clothes
Twin Sheets



Personnel Committee Notes

In April, we bid a fond farewell to our Yeri Jang, our Organist and Music Director. Yeri has delighted us with her talents and gifts for the last 3 years but feels ready to move onto new opportunities in musical performance. We will miss Yeri and husband Brian, and we wish them the best in their work! We have posted the position for a new Organist and Music Director and have already received applications.

In the meantime, we welcome Charles Corson who will be joining us in May as an interim organist/choir director. He has worked at over 50 churches in the Baltimore area as an organist, choir director, bell choir director, and praise band coordinator. He recently retired from 17 years at a large Methodist church in east Baltimore. Mr Corson is a native of Baltimore and currently lives in Timonium. He has been a member of Govans Presbyterian church since his youth. He also graduated from Peabody where he studied piano and organ. One of his hobbies is theatre organ and he recently gave the December pops concert at Rice Auditorium in Catonsville. Please join me in welcoming Charles to our Ashland community!

The Personnel Committee also continues to work on filling the position of Director of Christian Education. We have interested applicants and have conducted several interviews. We will keep you updated on our progress.

- Carla Ulgen

SUMMER MISSION PROPOSAL

Again this summer, Ashland Presbyterian proposes a unique mission program focusing on youth and community involvement. As you know we have been involved with the Upper Metro Group of Churches of the Presbytery in funding and volunteering through Habitat for Humanity of the Chesapeake on McCabe Avenue in the Govans area. Now we plan to carry that commitment one step further by becoming more deeply involved in the ongoing programs of the neighborhood which involve more than just building houses. By enlisting the expertise of the York Road Community Builder from Strong City Baltimore, Christian Hall, we are now moving into this phase of mission work. For the past two months, your Pastor and Dick Uhler, have been meeting with Christian and Kate Conners, Director of the Center to plan this unique mission. We have also been attending meetings of the Uptown Metro Ministry Affinity Group of the Woodbourne-McCabe community and the Woodbourne-McCabe Neighborhood Association to become familiar with the residents and listen to their concerns. This will be a mission of cooperation and not a mission of just giving and leaving.

To that end, we have begun the process of planning a mission week of activity from July 24th to July 29th utilizing input for the neighborhood to assist us in planning an educational, environmental program of instruction for youth of our church, neighborhood children, and an invited mission group of leaders and youth from out of state, who will be housed at the Center. Although, daily activities haven't been fully fleshed out at present, we will need adult and older teen volunteers from Ashland on a daily basis, volunteers to provide transportation, and, some folks to provide assistance with daily feeding for about fifty (50) participants.

Our focus will be on providing all of the kids (6 thru 14) opportunities to learn about how neighborhoods create safe and healthy environments, promote useful public space and enhance green space, be part of a diverse community, establish cooperative gardens, learn about each other, and have fun doing all of the above. Will there be a spiritual component? Yes, in the daily showing of respect, sharing and cooperation the Spirit will manifest itself.

More details will be forthcoming as we prepare the curriculum and enlist our volunteers. We will need you in order to be successful. Please consider contacting Shannon or myself to be part of this exciting adventure in mission.

Dick Uhler

***O gracious and loving God,
you work everywhere
reconciling, loving, and
healing your people and
your creation. In your Son
and through the power of
your Holy Spirit, you
invite each of us to join you
in your work. We, young
and old, lay and ordained,
ask you to form us more
and more in your image
and likeness, through our
prayer and worship of you
and through the study of
your scripture, that our
eyes will be fully opened to
your mission in the world.***

***Then, God, into our
communities, our nation,
and the world, send us to
serve with Christ, taking
risks to give life and hope
to all people and all of your
creation. We ask this in
Jesus' name. Amen.***



Spring is here! The sun is setting later and the days are becoming warmer. The students are busy discussing the changes in spring. They are sorting flowers, planting gardens and learning about the water cycle. Spring is such a wonderful time of year.

We are still looking for children to enroll for the fall. We have space available in our Tues./Thurs. 3's nursery program and the child care full time classes. If anyone is looking for preschool or childcare, please send them our way!

We are now accepting enrollment for our summer programs. This year the theme for nature camp will be "Australia". The children will camp in Australia where they will explore the animals, land, and plants of the region. We also have a summer program after summer camp which includes a variety of fun summer activities for 3 to 6 year olds.

Thank you to anyone who bought Orioles tickets. We will be cheering on Friday, May 6th Orioles vs A's Night at Camden Yards for the 7:05 game!



**Sunday, May 8
Charm City Bronze
Bell Choir**

Charm City Bronze, founded in 2013 by Artistic Director Beau Lochte, has performed with the Children's Chorus of Maryland and with Arsis Handbell Ensemble from Estonia. The group recently premiered original arrangements of Rimsky-Korsakov's "Scheherazade" and Grieg's "Piano Concerto in A Minor". Mr. Lochte graduated with a Bachelor of Music in Composition from Towson University. He currently directs three handbell choirs including Second Presbyterian Church and also teaches piano lessons at St. Paul's School.

Join Kim Bednarik and Rick Losemann at the Adult Sunday Morning Gatherings, 10:00am on Sunday in the church basement office (next to the boardroom).



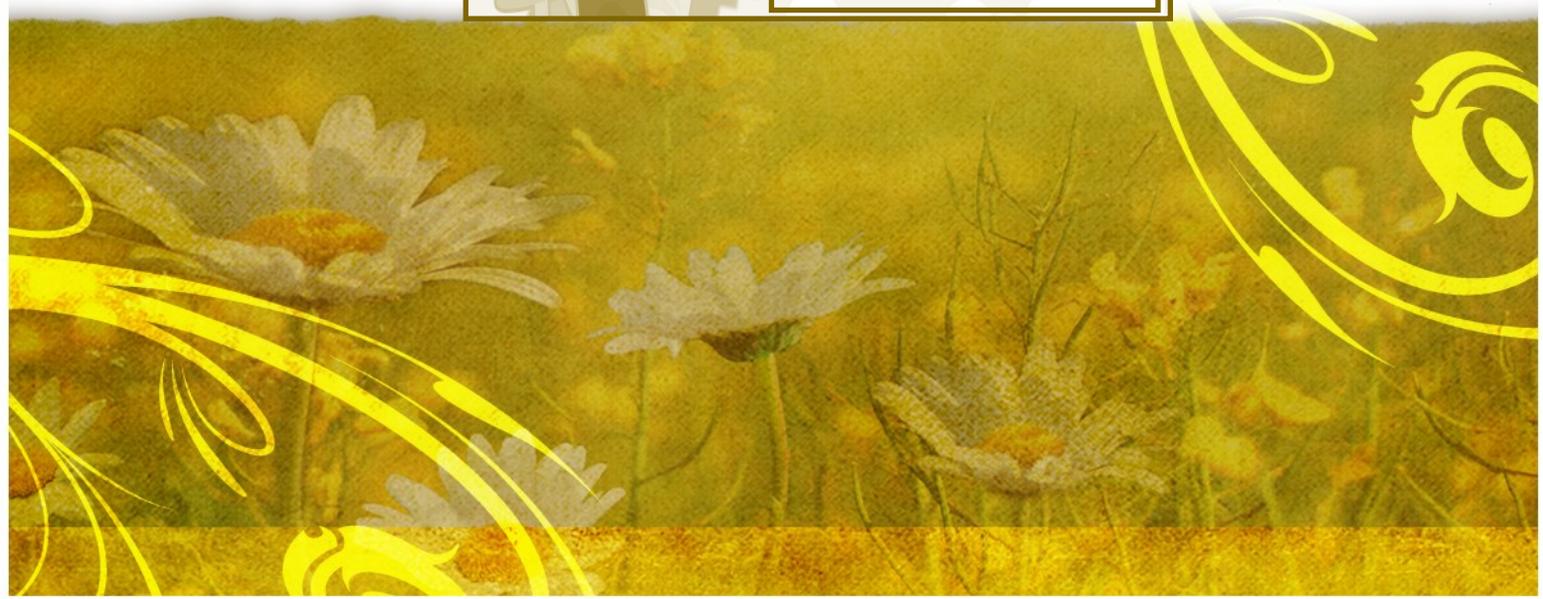
- May 8 God and Cake**
- May 15 Practicing Gratitude.**
- May 22 God's Fingerprints**



**YOUTH GROUP
WILL NOT
MEET IN MAY.**

LOOKING AHEAD:

**YOUTH SUNDAY
MAY 22**





Christian Education Classes 10:00 am
Adult Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
ONE Worship 11:00 am

WEEKLY EVENTS ...

Sundays Special Needs Troop #927 2:00 p.m.; Church of the Nazarene 5:00—7:00 p.m.
Tuesdays Daisy Troop #625 7:00 p.m.
Wednesdays Alcoholics Anonymous Meetings 8:30 p.m.
Thursdays Contemporary Worship Practice 6:30 p.m.—Chancel Choir: 8:00 p.m.
Fridays Church of the Nazarene (3rd Friday) 9:30 p.m.—Midnight
Saturday Church of the Nazarene 7:30-9:30 p.m.

| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT |
|--|--|--------------------------|------------------------------|-----|-----|------------------------------|
| 1 Worship Services 11:00 am only Sunday School 10:00 am Adult Sunday Sch. 10:00 am | 2 Project Linus 9:30 am | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 8 Mother's Day Worship Service 11:00 am only Special Music at Worship Sunday School 10:00 am Adult Sunday Sch. 10:00 am NO Youth Group | 9 Women's Group 12:30 pm | 10 Session 6:30 pm | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 15 Worship Service 11:00 am only 10:00 am Sunday School Adult Sunday Sch. 10:00 am | 16 | 17 | 18 Newsletter Deadline | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 22 Youth Sunday Worship Service 11:00 am only 10:00 am Sunday School Adult Sunday Sch. 10:00 am Youth Sunday | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 Sarah's Hope 2-5 pm |
| 29 Summer Worship Starts Worship Service 10:00 am only 10:00 am Sunday School | 30 Memorial Day Office Closed  | | | | | |
| CUBA TRIP | | | | | | |

ASHLAND CHURCH FAMILY CELEBRATIONS

| Birthdays | Anniversaries | Deacon/Elder Ordination Anniversaries |
|--|---|--|
| 5/3 Victoria Rudai 5/4 Beka Walter 5/6 Taylor DeBoer 5/7 Samantha Rudai 5/12 Amanda Kobokovich Maria Sasser 5/14 Zach Simmons Carol Walter 5/15 Jeanette Baldwin 5/16 Ressa Benzak 5/26 Carla Ulgen 5/31 Ginny Neuman | 5/3 Bill & Bonnie Clarke 5/21 Phill & Kim Bednarik 5/27 Chad & Amy Cavolo 5/28 Tom & Cathy Griffiths | 5/31 Betty Wirtz |

ASSIGNMENTS

| 2016 | May |
|-----------------------------|--|
| USHERS/ GREETERS | 5/1 Bob & Karen Hensley 5/8 5/15 5/22 Deb Miller 5/29 Carla Ulgen |
| SERVERS | 5/1 Jennefer Thomas/Jerry DeBoer |
| LITURGIST | 5/1 5/8 5/15 Rene Florendo 5/22 5/29 JoAnn Ruther |
| VAN DRIVERS | 5/1 Bob Hensley 5/8 Mike Benzak 5/15 Jerry DeBoer 5/22 Butch Zink 5/29 Bill Kobokovich |

Why not become more involved in Worship? Sign up to be an usher/greeter, liturgist or server. Sign up sheets are on the table in the hallway.

***Congregational Care Deacon for May
 Penny Deboer
 410-472-6844***



***Summer Worship Begins on
Sunday, May 29
10:00 a.m.***



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