

# Ashland Church News

MAY 2014



**Ashland Presbyterian Church**  
116 Ashland Road  
Cockeysville, MD  
Phone: 410-527-1844  
The Rev. Shannon Meacham

On the web at:  
[www.ashlandpc.org](http://www.ashlandpc.org)

**Clerk of Session**  
Bob Williams

**Church Treasurer**  
Jeanette Baldwin

#### **Session members 2014-2016**

Bob Williams  
Dawn Habicht  
Amy Rudai  
Julee Ward  
Kim Aspden  
Jacquie Sasser  
Carla Ulgen  
Gary Shockey  
Debbie Modisette

#### **Deacon Members 2014-2016**

Barbara Porter  
JoAnn Ruther  
Penny DeBoer  
Debbie Nassau  
Nancy Starr  
Deb Miller

**Director of Contemporary Music  
& Creative Arts**  
Rob Kelly

**Director of Christian Education**  
Katie Cashin

**Director of Music**  
Yeri Jang

**Pre-school Director**  
Cathie Lansdell

The pages of scripture reveal to us the stories of Jesus and how he called the sick to arise and to take part in their own healing. We are called into community with Jesus for healing, nurturing and enabling wholeness. By God's grace, each of us helps to heal, nurture and make whole the community of believers.

Traditionally, our thoughts on helping and healing turn to the sick and dying. Those suffering from cancer, strokes and heart attacks are the ones we visit and pray for. We can name their disease, and medically determine its cause and treatment.

What happens when the disease a loved one is suffering from doesn't have a medically determined cause, or safe and effective treatment? When little is known about their disease and people don't talk about it, it is because people don't understand and are judgmental?

Such is the case for over a third of the American population suffering from mental illness.

The Presbyterian Church highlights one Sunday in May to raise awareness of mental illness in our congregations and our communities. Jesus spent a lot of time with persons dealing with mental illness. Not just healing, but talking with, listening to and loving unconditionally.

Whether we are aware or not we are all touched by the suffering and struggles of mental illness. It might be a parent, sibling, friend, the person sitting next to you in the pew or yourself who suffers from depression, anxiety, bi-polar or any of the biologically based brain disorders that manifest in emotional or behavioral symptoms. The reality is that most people suffer in silence. They feel like people would think poorly of them or that something is "wrong" with them, when in fact one of the factors that exacerbates the disease is isolation.

We are called into community with Jesus for healing, nurturing and enabling wholeness. For those suffering with mental illness, we can, as individuals, proactively seek to hear/listen/see the lives and view of reality offered by those who struggle with mental illness and disease.

As a community of faith, we are called to be good models of support and encouragement to those needing to tell their stories. We all need to be who God created us to be, with the laughter and the tears, in our joys and our struggles.

Peace and Grace to you all,  
Pastor Shannon

# Ashland's Kids Corner

Ashland Families,

We've reached the end of another wonderful (Sunday) school year! While the kids may be in school through mid-June, our classes here will be wrapping up on Sunday, May 18 and we will be celebrating with a Children and Youth worship service at 11 a.m. During this service we will be giving thanks for a year of faith and fellowship and for all of the teachers, children, and parents who have supported our Christian Education ministry this year.

On Mother's Day, Sunday May 11<sup>th</sup> we will be having a special "Thank You Breakfast" as a way of starting the celebration a little early! This will be a potluck meal held during the Sunday School hour (10-10:50 a.m.) so be on the lookout for a sign up sheet in the hall.

In the spirit of celebrating mothers, fathers, grandparents, and caregivers, below is a mealtime prayer from *Ordinary Miracles: Awakening to the Holy Work of Parenting* by Rachel S. Gerbe.

*May this bread, as Christ's body, empower you.*

*May this bread, as Christ's hands, uphold you.*

*May this bread, as Christ's presence, fill you and give you peace.*

*Just as God gave the Israelites their daily provision of manna,  
just enough for one day,*

*may you know deep within that God will provide you with everything you need to raise your children today,*

*And tomorrow,*

*And the day after that.*

*May blessings upon blessings surround you,  
making this task of parenting both joyful and fruitful.*

*Amen.*

## Preschool News

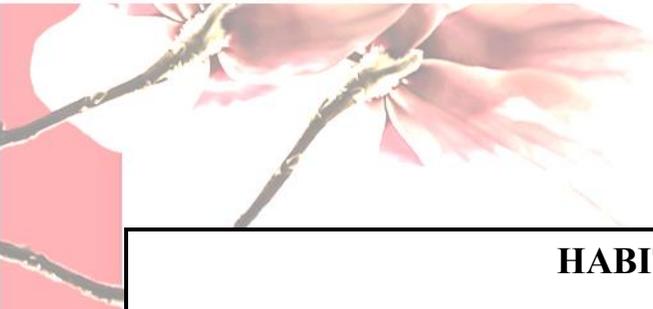
Finally spring has arrived! It's such a joy to finally get the children outside to play. They are so glad to be on the playground and the teachers are VERY glad too! Spring is such a wonderful time of year. Everything is new and fresh and "mudalicious"! The children will be busy planting gardens in cups, talking about April showers and May flowers, and

learning about the things that live underground and in the pond.

We are still looking for children to enroll for the fall. We have space available in almost all the programs so 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 "Camping in the Amazon Rain Forest".

**Community**—"Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers a multitude of sins." 1 Peter 4: 8



## HABITAT ON THE HORIZON

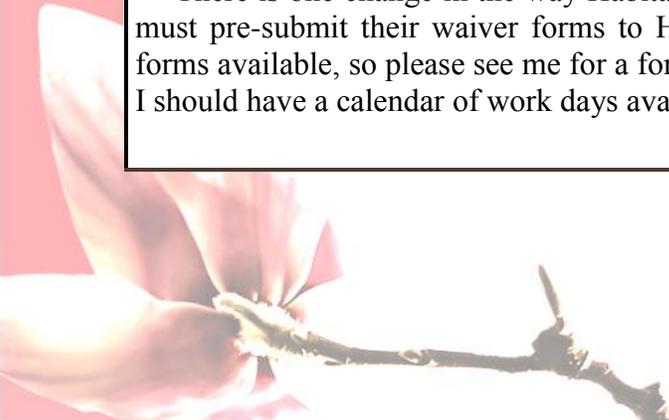
Plans for an opportunity for Ashland to be involved in a Habitat effort closer to home are being unveiled for late Spring and early Summer. Since last September, Ashland has been engaged in a series of meetings with a coalition of Presbyterian churches referred to as the Uptown Metro Ministry Group to band together and join Habitat for Humanity of the Chesapeake in a four year project centered on a neighborhood in the Govans area of Baltimore City. The project entails rebuilding 23 properties already owned by Habitat for Humanity on McCabe Avenue just two blocks south of Northern Parkway off York Road.

This proposed project is a broad scoped effort to work with neighbors rather than just individual houses. The McCabe Project will restore homes while working with neighborhood partners to advocate for “a gradient of public, semi-private and private spaces in which residents can work, rest, nourish, and play together .....making room for such unifying activities as urban farming, sports play, arts education and an urban peace park.” This project will offer plenty of ways to get involved, even if you are not the construction type.

As your Habitat leader, I'm very excited to be able to present such an opportunity to Ashland Presbyterian. One of the great aspects of this type of project is that it gives our youth an opening for participation, as part of the work will consist of non-building jobs. An equally pleasing aspect of this project will be that it will enable a number of us to socialize with other folks from Presbyterian churches in the uptown area grouping such as Central Presbyterian, Brown Memorial, Faith Presbyterian, Govans Presbyterian, Havenwood Presbyterian, Maryland Presbyterian, Roland Park Presbyterian, Second Presbyterian, Towson Presbyterian and Hunting Ridge Presbyterian. The proximity of this work area to us really takes away the problem of driving to the inner city and dealing with traffic – it's an easy eight minutes south of Towson and parking will be available close to the work area.

The actual work days will be available starting sometime by the end of April and beginning of May. The bigger group days will be, as usual, on Saturday. However, there will be plenty of work days during the week for those interested. I'm eager to see Ashland folks participate in this local mission which very much impacts the quality of life even up to and into the county. This area is just south of Belvedere Square and close to the Loyola campus and some of their facilities which extend east from Charles Street. We will not be deserting our commitment to United Churches, the ecumenical coalition, which we have long supported in cooperation with Habitat for Humanity of the Chesapeake. That coalition will also be working on the McCabe Project in the near future. During this year, Ashland's funding will be split between the two coalitions.

There is one change in the way Habitat will allow workers on the work sites this year. Each volunteer must pre-submit their waiver forms to Habitat prior to reporting to a workplace. I already have those forms available, so please see me for a form which you can email or snail mail to Habitat. By next month, I should have a calendar of work days available and will be notifying anyone interested in volunteering.





**Worship Committee Notes: *S'More Outdoor Worship!***

Summer  
Outdoor Worship

S'mores &  
Campfire!

By the  
River!

The Worship Committee is again planning to hold a monthly outdoor worship service at Ashland during the summer. Last year, we facetiously called this service “Not Vespers” since the start time wasn’t quite late enough for a true Vesper service. Our plan for this summer is to worship down by the stream at the back of the playground area. We will create a worship space with benches, a firepit (when safe) and plan to have delicious s-mores after worship.

Our summer services last year were moving and contemplative and really showed the beauty of Creation here at our church. We hope you will plan to attend this summer – the dates are tentatively scheduled for June 15, July 20, and August 17 starting at 7:00 p.m. We also invite anyone who has an interest in planning or participating in our outdoor worship to contact the Worship Committee. See you this summer!

Carla Ulgen for the Worship Committee

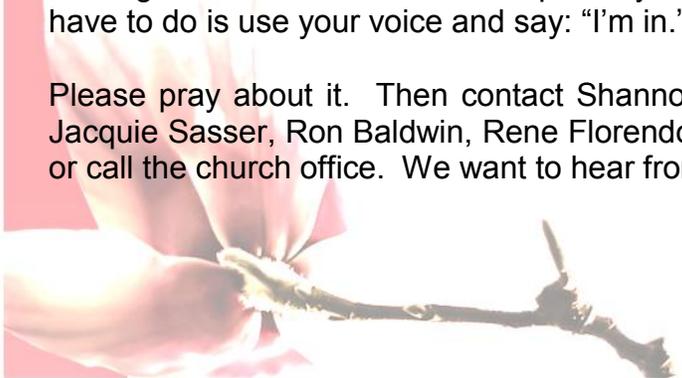


**The Voice** TV show has provided hundreds of singers an opportunity to show their music talents. Ready to share your voice? The Ashland worship committee wants to hear from you, but this is not about singing (exclusively). In keeping with our value of shared leadership, we are looking for folks who want to share in worship leadership. Jesus called His disciples to help His ministry. He still calls each of us today.

Traditionally, lay readers have read scripture lessons or lead responsive liturgies and prayers. We want to notch that up. While lay readers, ushers and greeters are definitely needed, will you join us to expand lay worship leadership at Ashland? What would you like to offer? children’s message? story telling (youth or adult)? short play or skit? personal testimony or message? poetry (that ‘speaks’ to you or that you write)? Would you like to plan or share in leading a summer evening service? (There are opportunities coming soon.) Have you witnessed something during worship in another church that you would like to bring to Ashland? Would you consider joining the choir or praise team (short or long term)? Would you sing a solo or in a small group? Here’s where you can use your imagination...

Do you want to help, but don’t feel equipped? We want to answer that concern by offering coaching, training and other resources to empower you. Shannon and the worship committee will help. All you have to do is use your voice and say: “I’m in.” Will you answer the call?

Please pray about it. Then contact Shannon or a member of the worship committee: Carla Ulgen, Jacquie Sasser, Ron Baldwin, Rene Florendo, Rob Kelly, Rick Losemann, Peggy Paterson, Yeri Jang or call the church office. We want to hear from you!





## SUMMER FUN DAYS

Sunday, June 8, 5PM

Family Movie Night

Please RSVP to [KatieCashin@Gmail.com](mailto:KatieCashin@Gmail.com)

by Friday June 6.

Sunday, July 13, 5:35 PM

Aberdeen Ironbirds Game

Please RSVP to [KatieCashin@Gmail.com](mailto:KatieCashin@Gmail.com)

by Tuesday July 1.

Friday, August 15, 6:30

Dinner (location TBD)

7:30 Hunt Valley Concert Series,

featuring Junkyard Saints.

Please RSVP to [KatieCashin@Gmail.com](mailto:KatieCashin@Gmail.com)

by Wednesday August 13.

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## 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*

**CELEBRATING PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN**  
*Best Book Club EVER!!*



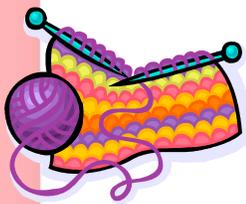
If you are an Ashland Presbyterian Church woman, you are invited to our Bible Study/Fellowship the 2nd Monday, September through May, at 12:30 p.m. The APC Presbyterian Women support the washing/social mission contributions sent to Cabaiguan, Cuba, the Prayer Shawl Ministry, Sarah's Hope, etc. etc. Share this fellowship with APC women and enjoy the 2013-14 Bible Study, *An Abiding Hope—The Presence of God in Exodus and Deuteronomy*, Contact Susan Williams, Moderator, at 410-785-6955, for additional information.

On the Calendar for Presbyterian Women:

**Monday, May 12, 2014**, Lesson 9 of *An Abiding Hope—The Presence of God in Exodus and Deuteronomy*, at the home of Susan Williams.

**Synod of Mid-Atlantic Summer Gathering, June 5—8, 2014**

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Did You Know?

**Ashland Presbyterian Women have a Prayer Shawl Ministry**

Prayer Shawls, made for centuries to embrace with God's unconditional love, wrap, enfold, comfort, shelter, and give solace to those needing special attention from people who pray with intention while they knit.

Are you a knitter? Please help us fill the need. Is there someone with a special need for prayer? Tell us. Do you wish to donate yarn? We'll take it.

**Contact Pat Morgan at 410-472-2234 or [patm14205@comcast.net](mailto:patm14205@comcast.net)**

The Ashland Prayer Shawl ministers affiliate with the national organization which can be reached at [www.shawlministry.com](http://www.shawlministry.com)

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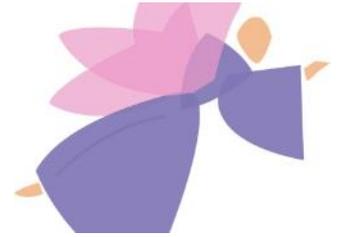
Special Music on May 11th at the 11:00 a.m. service will be provided by guitarists Kathrin Murray and Troy King. A native of Hawaii, Kathrin received her Bachelor's Degree from Denver's Lamont School of Music and a Master's from Peabody Conservatory. She is an active soloist, chamber musician and currently teaching at the Baltimore School for the Arts, Mc Daniel College and the Bryn Mawr School. Troy holds degrees from the Cleveland Institute of Music and the University of Denver. He has won first place in several competitions, given concerts in the US., Europe and Latin America and is frequently heard on the BBC and Public Radio in the US. He has also released two solo recordings. Troy teaches classical guitar and guitar ensemble at Towson University. Together they recently released a new CD; "Piano Music for Two Guitars", works by Debussy, Brahms, Turina, Granados and Grieg. Kathrin is also on a new recording of voice and guitar works by Garth Baxter. Both recordings are on the Centaur label. They are the parents of 3 young children.



Looking Ahead: June 8th; Greg Small as pianist in Yeri's absence.

**Mission**—"I have given you an example to follow. Do as I have done to you." John 13: 15

## The Ashland Church Family CARES ... *Update from the Ashland Angels*



HAPPY EASTER, HAPPY SPRING....HAPPY, HAPPY EVERYTHING!

As you can tell, I am pretty HAPPY that Spring is here.....WOO HOO! Hope you all share my happiness and joy.

Thank you Karen Hensley and Jeanette Baldwin for providing some yummy meals for Mary and Bill McDonald. I know your food was greatly appreciated. Sandy Losemann took care of April card duty, thank you Sandy.

Wishing you all much happiness and sunshine in the days ahead.

God Bless... Penny

*Keep a green tree in your heart and perhaps the singing bird will come.*



### **AN INVITATION! SUNDAY, MAY 4TH. 12:15 - 2 pm**

*Kim Bednarik, a longtime member of our congregation, and Casey Carter, a Certified Health Coach and a regular attender since October, would like to INVITE YOU TO LUNCH to share their vision for offering mini-seminars on Healthy Cooking for Fun, Fellowship, and Vibrant Living.*

*This offering is an outgrowth of the service in early March when Reverend Shannon and the Mission Committee invited us into small groups during the service to brainstorm ideas about how Ashland Presbyterian could expand how we might serve the greater community AND in a way that we, personally, would be excited to show up! Well, that is all it took to light the fire under Casey and Kim who share a passion for living a healthy vibrant life and are inspired to share their gifts with you and the greater community.*

*YOU ARE INVITED to join them, Sunday, May 4th, from 12:15-2pm, in the Fellowship Hall, immediately following the 11am service. They will provide a yummy, healthy, light lunch and share their vision with us. **PLEASE SIGN UP by April 27th.** They are really excited about this and look forward to seeing you there! If you have questions, contact Casey at 503-490-7463.*

*Life Is People* is a poignant progressive folk album that is as vulnerable as it is epic. The scope is broad and Fay traverses it with the ease of a veteran. One minute we're singing along to huge gospel choir on "Be At Peace With Yourself", and the very next song ("Jesus Etc") he's whispering into the mic backed only by a piano. My favorite tracks are "Thank You Lord" and "Never Ending Happening", but this entire record has begun to mean a lot to me.

ROB RECOMMENDS



ROB RECOMMENDS

# ASHLAND CHURCH FAMILY CELEBRATIONS

## BIRTHDAYS

- 5/4 Victoria Rudai  
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
- 5/20 Tracey Braverman
- 5/21 Audrey Iltis
- 5/25 Shirley Schleunes
- 5/26 Carla Ulgen
- 5/31 Ginny Neuman

## ANNIVERSARIES

- 5/3  
Bill & Bonnie Clarke
- 5/5  
Stuart & Tracey Braverman
- 5/21  
Phill & Kim Bednarik  
Carl & Shirley Schleunes
- 5/27  
Chad & Amy Cavolo
- 5/28  
Tom & Cathy Griffiths

Do we have YOUR family's important dates to share and celebrate? Have we made any mistakes? Please contact the Church Office at 410-527-1844, or [office@ashlandpc.org](mailto:office@ashlandpc.org) with additions and/or corrections for the database.

## ASSIGNMENTS

**HELP MAKE CHURCH HAPPEN!**  
Volunteer *today* for one of these essential jobs!



**LITURGISTS** – lead the printed Call to Worship, read the First Scripture Lesson, receive the Offering and pray the Prayer of Dedication

**USHERS** – prepare and restore sanctuary before and after worship. Insure that other assignments are covered. Assist with seating, distribution of prayer cards and any other needs of the congregation. CONTACT: **Carla Ulgen or Jacquie Sasser**

**GREETERS** – cheerfully greet worshippers and hand-out bulletins, introduce themselves to visitors and give them a Welcome Packet.

**VAN DRIVERS** – pick-up and return worshippers from Broadmead Retirement Community. Training required. CONTACT: **Bill Kobokovich**

| LITURGISTS 11:00 am | GREETERS/USHERS           | VAN DRIVERS          |
|---------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|
| 5/4                 | 5/4 Bob & Karen Hensley   | 5/4 Will Meacham     |
| 5/11 Sandy Losemann | 5/11 Bill & Bonnie Clarke | 5/11 Bill Kobokovich |
| 5/18                | 5/18 Priscilla Barrett    | 5/18 Kim Bednarik    |
| 5/25                | 5/25 Will & Debbie Nassau | 5/25 Bob Hensley     |



*Early Worship ~ 9:00 am  
(until May 18th)*

*Christian Education Classes ~10:00 am  
(until May 18th)*

*Worship ~ 11:00 am  
(until May 18th)*

| <u>SUNDAY</u>   | <u>MONDAY</u>   | <u>TUESDAY</u> | <u>WEDNESDAY</u>  | <u>THURSDAY</u> | <u>FRIDAY</u> | <u>SATURDAY</u>           |
|---|---|----------------|---|-----------------|---------------|---------------------------|
|   |   |                |   | 1               | 2             | 3                         |
| 4 3rd Sunday of Easter<br>Wellness Seminar—12:15 p.m.   | 5 PROJECT LINUS<br>9:30 a.m.  | 6              | 7   | 8               | 9             | 10                        |
| 11 4th Sunday of Easter<br>SS Family Potluck Breakfast<br>10:00 a.m.<br>2nd Sunday Special Music<br> | 12 WOMEN'S GROUP<br>12:30 pm<br>Susan Williams' Home<br> | 13             | 14<br><br>SUMMER NEWSLETTER DEADLINE | 15              | 16            | 17                        |
| 18 5th Sunday of Easter<br>CHILD/YOUTH WORSHIP<br>LAST DAY OF SUNDAY SCHOOL<br>Coffee Hour—NOON   | 19  | 20             | 21  | 22              | 23            | 24 SARAH'S HOPE<br>2-5 pm |
| 25 6th Sunday of Easter<br><br>10:00 A.M.   | 26<br><br>Church office closed                           | 27             | 28  | 29              | 30            | 31                        |

**WEEKLY EVENTS ... Wednesdays  
Thursdays**

Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting 8:30 pm  
Contemporary Worship Practice 6:30pm  
Chancel Choir—8:00 p.m.

Ashland Presbyterian Church  
116 Ashland Road  
Cockeysville, Maryland 21030-1950



**ONE SERVICE AT 11:00 A.M.  
ON SUNDAY, MAY 11th**

