Celebrate the Wisdom of Easter

This year Easter and the message of resurrection fall on April Fool’s Day. How biblical this is. Paul spoke a lot about the foolishness of believing in God and the cross.

"For the wisdom of this world is foolishness in God’s sight." (1 Corinthians 3:19) "For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God." (1 Corinthians 1:18)

Come to church early this Easter Sunday, enjoy breakfast, an Easter egg hunt, and then revel in the foolishness of the message of the empty tomb – the foolishness that belies belief.

We will have a joy-filled Sunday as we celebrate three baptisms, welcome new members into the congregation, and celebrate Communion.

The rest of the month also has a lot in store. A member of the Presbytery’s Transition Committee, a subcommittee of the Committee on Ministry (COM), will meet with the Session at the next regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, April 9th to discuss the path forward in the call process. After this, the session will decide the size of the Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) and RPC’s nominating committee will begin the work needed to fill this committee. Expect updates as actions are taken in the next couple of months.

On a personal note --
I thank Amy, Patti, Charlene, and the rest of the congregation for taking my celiac disease seriously, to the point of changing to a gluten Free Communion service and even voluntarily proposing an alternative menu to the traditional pancake breakfast on Easter Sunday. While avoiding gluten has become a fad for many, celiac disease is a serious digestive condition that requires consistent avoidance of all gluten.

Celiac has long been taken seriously in Europe where rates have been determined from 1 in 200 in Italy and lessening to the north to 1 in 100 in Norway and Sweden and 1 in 60 in Iceland. In many European countries, children are routinely tested, and restaurants must (by law) offer gluten free selections. Celiac disease affects just over 1% of the U.S. population. (If it’s in your family, your odds move to approximately 1 in 25.)

Only approximately 30% of “celiacs” have actual digestive symptoms, which confounds diagnosis. Other common disorders resulting from the incomplete digestion and absorption of food, in the presence of gluten, may include brain fog, lack of balance, an irregular gait, anemia, weight loss or inability to lose symptoms, many with celiac may believe they can eat “some” gluten, or that they have “outgrown” the weight, and more. (Celiac patients align with population norms of weight.) Because of the diversity of condition.

Unlike allergies, however, one does not outgrow celiac.

Cont’d on page two
Pastor’s Article Cont’d

So, depending upon the level of gluten that I notice when walking through the Calvin Room following worship, I frequently just keep walking. Anyone wanting to talk on those days will find me hiding out in my office. And I thank you for “listening”.

In Christ’s service,

Pastor Karen

April 1st Communion Servers:
Sue McKee Anderson, Marty Heilman, Nancy Webert & Mary Williams
**Only gluten free Communion Bread is served during worship services.**

Those Who Serve Us This Month

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>April 1</th>
<th>April 8</th>
<th>April 15</th>
<th>April 22</th>
<th>April 29</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MUSICIAN</td>
<td>Howie June</td>
<td>Howie Jung</td>
<td>Howie Jung</td>
<td>Howie Jung</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAY READER</td>
<td>Bernice Brown</td>
<td>Bryson Sorini</td>
<td>Amy Macomber</td>
<td>Mary Ann Eull</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USHERS</td>
<td>Rachel Jung &amp; Pat Wolff</td>
<td>Wayne &amp; Sharon Anderson</td>
<td>Macomber Family</td>
<td>Suzie Cheesman &amp; Troy Crumrine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COUNTERS</td>
<td>Paul &amp; Elizabeth Boyer</td>
<td>Jack &amp; Anne Baur</td>
<td>Dave &amp; Susan Anderson</td>
<td>Jerry &amp; Amy Macomber</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

RPC Activities This Month

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Buildings &amp; Grounds</th>
<th>Tuesday, April 3rd: 7:30-8:30pm</th>
<th>Calvin Room</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Session Meeting</td>
<td>Monday, April 9th: 7:30-10:00pm</td>
<td>Calvin Room</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Romeo Lunch</td>
<td>Wednesday, April 11th: 12:00-1:00pm</td>
<td>IHOP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday Morning Group</td>
<td>Tuesday, April 17th: 11:00-1:00pm</td>
<td>Carolyn Dodge's House 827 Aster Boulevard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newsletter Articles Due</td>
<td>Sunday, April 22nd</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WOC Luncheon</td>
<td>Tuesday, April 24th: 11:30-1:30pm</td>
<td>TBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday Small Group</td>
<td>Friday, April 27th: 7:00-9:00pm</td>
<td>Sorini's Home: 706 Smallwood Road, Rockville</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Session Report

Session report from March:

Adjustments to the roll for deaths, certificate of transfer, and member requests were approved.

We discussed updates to the bylaws regarding terms for Elders, Deacons, and Trustees.

Session Liaisons were selected. Sharon will be the liaison for Personnel, Martin for Faith Formation.

Alice McGinnis from National Capital Presbytery (Transformation Committee), has requested to be on the docket for the April to highlight the next steps on the Pastor Nominating Committee.

Sue reported on the Nominating Committee and the potential names for the vacant position on Session and upcoming opportunities.

Motion to allow the Rainbow Place Board to host a beer tasting on April 13th was passed unanimously.

Next meeting is April 9th!

Elizabeth Dawson

Calling All Graduates

We will be having a graduation and promotion recognition on Sunday, June 10th. I am asking for you to let the church office know who is graduating out of high school or college or who is being promoted from one school to the next such as preschool promotion, 5th grade promotion or 8th grade promotion. We need this information no later than May 15th so that we can properly recognize our graduates that Sunday. If the student is graduating from high school and you have their next plans such as college, please let us know that, or if it’s a college graduate, the college name and the degree they have earned and even their future plans if that is known.

Amy Macomber
Rainbow Place Shelter

As our Shelter enters its final weeks of operations this season, we are asking you to consider helping us with a critical fundraising event. We have developed a unique opportunity and are hoping we can count on you to make this event successful. We are looking for 28 men to participate in Rainbow Place Shelter's first annual Sleep-A-Thon to get a glimpse into what women experiencing homelessness go through each night at the shelter. Are you or someone you may know up to the challenge? We are planning a Sleep-A-Thon night for women in the near future.

There are many people in Montgomery County who are only one or two paychecks away from experiencing homelessness. Can you imagine what it’s like to have one of life’s incidents happen, and suddenly you find yourself with no place to live? You have an opportunity to support our shelter by joining our team to raise much needed funds. Stay a night in our shelter by asking friends, family, coworkers, etc. to sponsor you to reserve your cot. Count your blessings and support the women of Rainbow who need that bridge to more solid ground. Rainbow Place Shelter provides that safe place to help them gather themselves to then move on to find a more stable living arrangement.

Please consider signing up today to join us on Friday, April 13th for one night’s stay at Rainbow Place Shelter. We have organized this event similar to other group fundraising activities in which we would set up a unique landing page for you or your team. We are asking for participants to set their goal at $1,000 to obtain from sponsors, friends, family or coworkers prior to the Sleep-A-Thon night. You would primarily do so by sending an email with a message and link to your page. We can assist you with some information about Rainbow to help with your email and provide you a link to your very own fundraising page once you have registered. You can register for the event at the Rainbow Place website, http://www.rainbowplace.org/. If you have any questions, please contact Mary Mancuso (chair@RainbowPlace.org or the RPC directory).

Looking for another way to donate to Rainbow Place

AmazonSmile is a website operated by Amazon with the same products, prices, and shopping features as Amazon.com. The difference is that when you shop on AmazonSmile, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible products to the charitable organization of your choice. Every item available for purchase on www.amazon.com is also available on AmazonSmile (smile.amazon.com) at the same price. You will see eligible products marked "Eligible for AmazonSmile donation" on their product detail pages.
**HISTORY:** At Group Mission Trips, our passion is creating service experiences to help people grow in their relationships with Jesus and each other. It’s more than a moment. It’s a mindset. We are continually humbled by God’s transforming work through this organization, and especially now as 2017 marks the 40th birthday of our beginnings.

The Borough of Wrightsville York County, Pennsylvania welcomes you! This historic town is located along the western banks of the Susquehanna River in the Susquehanna Valley Region of Pennsylvania and is well known for the burning of the bridge during the Civil War in 1863. In these days Eastern York County is full of small town charm and beautiful rural countryside. Many families can research their heritage and find that many of their ancestors settled here and few moved very far away. Our lodging for the week overlooks the amazing Susquehanna River high above the river valley. The school is very modern. Although it has air conditioning, the constant breezes make it cool enough without AC most of the time.

**How You’ll Serve:** Your group will improve homes by repairing and replacing gutters, adding wheelchair and handicap ramps, sprucing up many weather beaten homes with paint and siding and complete indoor projects that residents can’t do themselves. There are many elderly residents on fixed incomes in Eastern York County. Many of our people are desperately trying to stay in their homes. Our hope and our goal is to help as many families as we can with home improvement jobs so that they feel safe and that upgrades to their homes will require less maintenance on their part. We hope that our work will take some pressure off single income families so that they live more stress free.

**Our Partner:** Our local Cosponsor has attended many Workcamps in the past and has long wanted to host a camp of their own. As a group of many faith organizations, the Eastern York Workcamp Initiative is eager to put their years of experience to the test in their home town.

**Places of Interest:**
* Sam Lewis State Park is within walking distance just up the hill. The Susquehanna River and heritage trail (21 miles along former rail bed) is a short drive away.
* Round Top Mountain will entertain your group with zip lines and paintball.
* Historic Gettysburg Battle monument, located just one hour west, offers a look into our nation’s history.
* The chocolate lovers in your group will enjoy a trip to Hershey Park and Chocolate World, just 30 minutes away.
* You know the old nursery rhyme, “There was an old woman who lived in a shoe...” Well, you can’t miss the Haines Shoe House!

Payments and due dates:
- January 15, 2018: $138.00
- March 15, 2018: $138.00
- May 15, 2018: **$138.00**
- Total Cost: **$414.00**

*Make Checks Payable to RPC 2018 Mission Trip.*

Adults – we need you to make this happen. We need a 5 to 1 ratio to serve. Please consider volunteering as an adult. There is no charge for adults!

Full or partial scholarships are available to anyone. All requests for financial assistance are confidential. For more information, contact Bob Taylor or Marc Sorini.
CMR/Interfaith Spotlight: CMR’s Language Outreach Program

RPC is a partner church to Community Ministries of Rockville (CMR) and Interfaith Works. There will be a concert to benefit Community Ministries of Rockville (CMR) on **Friday, April 20th at 7:30 pm** at Faith United Methodist Church (6810 Montrose Road, Rockville, MD). A free will offering will be collected to benefit CMR. For more information, contact Andrea Lempner-Wink at 301-637-0172 or andreakwink@cmrocks.org, or go to the CMR website at www.cmrocks.org.

CMR/Interfaith Spotlight: Mansfield Kaseman Health Clinic

RPC is a partner church to Community Ministries of Rockville (CMR) and Interfaith Works. Last month, we shone the spotlight on the Interfaith Works Clothing Center. This month, we will shine the spotlight on the CMR’s Mansfield Kaseman Health Clinic.

The Mansfield Kaseman Health Clinic was founded in 2004 in response to the need for access to primary healthcare services for the uninsured and underinsured members of the Greater Rockville Area. Initially, the clinic offered only four hours of clinical service at one location. By 2008, the clinic had expanded to offering 12 hours of service per week at two Rockville locations. When these two locations were open, the clinic served nearly 500 patients and had 1,300 patient visits per year. Nearly 30% of the patients were from within Rockville City limits.

In 2010, a permanent clinic location was opened at 8 West Middle Lane, Rockville, MD 20850. Many of us have visited this location during our joint Rainbow Place/CMR fundraising walk. Today, the clinic is open 8 hours, 5 days a week. The clinic offers primary care, specialty care (endocrinologist, podiatrist, and behavior health specialist), social services, health education, lab services, and a pharmacy. In addition, Spanish speaking doctors are available.
Community Ministries

Songs-of-Life Concert to Benefit the Interfaith Works Clothing Center

The Second Annual “Songs of Life” Concert will benefit the Interfaith Works Clothing Center. The concert will be held on **Sunday, April 8th at 3 pm** at St. Mark Presbyterian Church (10701 Old Georgetown Road, Bethesda, MD 20852). The concert will feature performances by Kehila Chadasha, Indonesian Kids Performing Arts (IKPA), Kolot HaLev – Voices of the Heart, Warner Memorial Presbyterian Sanctuary Choir, Christ Congregational Church Chancel Choir, and Jeannette Davis and Robin Schultz. The event is free; free will and online donations are encouraged. For more information, go to [http://www.iworksmc.org/songs-of-life-benefit-concert-4-8/](http://www.iworksmc.org/songs-of-life-benefit-concert-4-8/).

Interfaith Works Caring Breakfast

On **Thursday, April 26th from 7:30 am to 9:30 am**, Interfaith Works will be sponsoring the Interfaith Works Caring Breakfast at the Bethesda North Marriott Hotel and Conference Center (5701 Marinelli Rd. North Bethesda, MD). The breakfast attracts more than 400 leaders from the business, political, governmental and non-profit communities, and will recognize individuals and organizations that have outstandingly contributed to the success of Interfaith Works. Tickets are available online at [http://www.iworksmc.org/2018_caring_breakfast/](http://www.iworksmc.org/2018_caring_breakfast/).

Launch of Interfaith Network of Montgomery County

The Interfaith Network of Montgomery County (INMC) launch is **Monday, April 9, 6:30-9pm**, at the Silver Spring Civic Center (1 Veterans Pl., Silver Spring, MD 20910). INMC is a partnership between Interfaith Works and the Montgomery County Faith Community Advisory Council. At 6 pm, there will be refreshments, live music, and a resource fair. At 7 pm, County Executive Isiah Leggett will address the value of INMC in creating a welcoming, resilient, and inclusive county. For more information and to register, go to [http://www.iworksmc.org/interfaithnetworkmc/](http://www.iworksmc.org/interfaithnetworkmc/).
RPCNS is now enrolling for the 2018-19 School year!
Are you interested in a preschool for your child that gives you the opportunity to participate in their education? Cooperative education may be right for you.

A cooperative preschool encourages family involvement by partnering parents with their child’s certified Teacher in the classroom environment. Your child gets the benefit of a high quality preschool education, while gradually separating from the home environment. Parents, teachers, and the child work together to build a successful learning experience.

At RPCNS, our play-based, comprehensive Md. State Dept. of Education-approved curriculum prepares your child for Kindergarten while instilling a sense of fun and community. We offer classes for Two-year-olds (Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:45–12:15), Three-year-olds (Mon, Wed, Friday 9:45-12:30) and Four-year-olds (Monday – Friday 9:45-12:30). We now offer before and after care until 3pm.

RPCNS offers a 10% discount off of tuition to members of RPC.

For more information, or to arrange a tour, go to www.RPCNS.org or contact us at 301-762-1293.

Spring Session of RPCNS Music Class and Wee Ones
These classes are for parent and child to attend together. The child does not have to be enrolled in RPCNS to participate in these classes. To register, call us at 301-762-1293 or email at info@rpcns.org.

Music with Miss Katy - Wednesdays from 9:50-10:30 am on April 11, 18, 25; May 2, 9, 16, 23 in Room #104 at RPCNS. Drop in for $15, for $90 for the full 7 weeks.

Wee Ones Playgroup - Fridays from 10 – 11 am on April 6, 13, 20, 27; May 4, 11, 18 in Room #104 at RPCNS.

Drop in $15 or $95 for 7 weeks.

Notice of Nondiscrimination Policy as to Students

Rockville Presbyterian Cooperative School admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other school-administered programs.
RPC Outreach

**Children’s Coin Collection**

Our March Children’s Coin collection collected $101.78 for One Great Hour of Sharing, a PC(USA) effort to provide relief to those affected by natural disasters, provide food to the hungry, and helping to empower the poor and oppressed.

Do you have an idea for a Children’s Coin Collection recipient? The Children’s Coin Collection goes to organizations and charities that focus on children or families’ needs. The recipient can be near or far, small or large. If you have an organization that is near and dear to your heart that focuses on children or families’ needs, let Rachel Jung know (fastfreckle@hotmail.com or in person).

**The Lord's Table Soup Kitchen** serves hot nutritious meals daily Monday through Saturday, September to June at 3:30 pm in the Church Hall. Between 60 and 100+ hungry, homeless and needy people are fed each day.

**RPC Volunteer day is Friday, April 6th from 1:00 to 5:00pm.**

The soup kitchen needs volunteers with cooking skills or experience with other aspects of food preparation. We value high energy and the ability to hustle to serve and then clean up for a large group. We are especially seeking Spanish speakers to serve and participate in Bible studies with our guests, a large number of whom are Latino. Volunteers meet at St. Martin’s Church on the first Wednesday and the fourth Friday of every month and are welcome to join the Food Prep or Servers teams.

**Schedule**

- 12:30 – 2:30 PM | Cooking and Preparation
- 3:30 – 4:30 PM | Meal service (Servers arrive at 3 PM and stay for cleanup)
- 4:30 – 5:15 PM | Cleanup

The Lord’s Table is a completely volunteer organization and operates solely on donations. Adult volunteers are always needed. If you are over 21 and can make a commitment once a month please phone Mary Canapary at 301-869-7609. The soup kitchen operates under health department regulations. Volunteers will receive training.

**Night Out at El Golfo Restaurant to Support Interfaith Works**

Have a fun night out while supporting Interfaith Works by heading to El Golfo Restaurant (8739 Flower Ave., Silver Spring) for authentic Latin food on **Thursday, June 28 from 6-9 PM**. The restaurant will donate 20% of the evening’s proceeds to IW. Dine in or carry out. Stay to enjoy karaoke night! Be sure to mention Interfaith Works to your server.
Tickets will be available beginning May 1st.

To keep costs at a minimum, the committee is looking for donations of teapots and 2-3 tier servers for food. If you have these items and no longer need them, please pass them our way!

Please contact Ann Kelly, annskelly@comcast.net or call 301-983-4009, if you have teapots and tier servers.
The deadline for the May issue of the RPC Newsletter is Sunday, April 22nd