

Presbyterian Church of Chestertown

905 GATEWAY DRIVE, CHESTERTOWN MD 21620 410-778-6057

Presbyterian Church of Chestertown (PCC)

Sara Holben, PASTOR

Caitlan Quinn Gartland,
ASSOCIATE PASTOR

John Ames, PARISH ASSOCIATE

Jules Scheidel, PASTORAL ASST.

Earl Brooks, PASTOR EMERITUS

Kate Bennett, MUSIC MINISTRY

Terri Gloyd, CHRISTIAN EDUC.

Carol Taylor, ADMINISTRATION

Wayne Bedwell, SEXTON

*Worship Service and
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.*

*The Presbyterian Church of
Chestertown is a connectional
church, part of the New Castle
Presbytery, the Synod of
the Mid-Atlantic and the
General Assembly of the
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)*

**June/July 2018:
Volume 289**



A Note from Sara

In our “Lent-in-a-Box” project this past March one of the prayer practices we were invited to try was a “gratitude jar.” Each day we were to write on a slip of paper something we were grateful for — then collect those slips of paper in the jar to watch them fill up the jar and help us remember to give thanks to God not just for the big things, but even for all of the “small” ordinary things that happen to us every day.

If I had a “gratitude jar” for the past nearly-18 years serving as your pastor, the jar would be filled to overflowing with all the ways in which I am grateful to God for this time we have had together in ministry. In there would be all of the baptisms and weddings and yes, even funerals, we have shared together. I am grateful for all the times we have laughed together, shed tears together, and given witness to our faith together to the eternal mercy and grace of God.

In that gratitude jar there would be reminders of Sunday mornings, mid-week prayer services, midnight services at Christmas and Easter – and countless conversations, prayers, confidences shared, and songs sung (even when we weren’t always sure of the melody). I am grateful for all the meals shared around supper tables and the communion table with Christ’s presence felt in each one of those places.

But most of all in the gratitude jar, time and again, I would be placing the names of all of you. I am grateful for your generosity of spirit and heart, your trust in God, your faithfulness to Christ, and your welcome to Bob and to me through the years.

I am grateful for your willingness to go on this faith journey and let me travel with you for a time. I am deeply grateful for

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WWW.PRESBYTERIANCHESTERTOWN.ORG

SESSION

Clerk of Session

Ruth Vietri-Green

Class of 2018

Ralph Surette - *Human Relations*

Betsy Taylor - *Christian*

Education; Nominating

Doug West - *Mission; Property*

Class of 2019

Sue Caswell - *Discipleship;*

Congregational Life

Dave Menzie - *Administration*

& Finance

Tom Pierson - *Youth Ministry*

Class of 2020

Joanne Clarke - *Communications*

Lanny Parks - *Worship,*

Music & the Arts

Lance Williams - *Nominating*

DEACONS

Class of 2018

Ellie Jetton - *Youth Deacon*

Dallas Higginbotham

Jackie Urlock

James Wood

Class of 2019

Wendy Barnette

Sandee Trakat

Sue West

Class of 2020

Betsy Miller

Sue Willits

Diane Zang



Summer Music Camp

For three days, **July 10-12**, from 10 a.m. to 12 noon, join us for a celebration of our "All-the-Time-God." Children (ages 3 to grade 5) will sing, ring handbells, play chimes and rhythm instruments, and move to the rhythm of the Spirit, remembering that God is with us "all the time"!

Registration forms are available on our church website (www.presbyterianchestertown.org), in the Church Office, and in the Narthex.

Sara's note cont.

all we have shared, what we have done, and thankful for the time we have had together.

And I am forever grateful to God for having brought us together. While I will always miss you very much, I can with confidence say that I know all things will be well because God will be with us all as we part from one another.

I know that there is an amazing future waiting for this congregation and I can't wait to see what new things God is imagining for PCC.

May God's blessings always be with you,

With love and faith always,

Sara

Concert at Christ United

Christ United Methodist Church, located at 401 High Street in Chestertown, is hosting a concert of the Mennonite Children's Choir of Lancaster on **Sunday, June 17**, at 7:00 p.m. The 29 singers in grades 6 through 8 are directed by Sarah Wingard. The choir's mission is training children and youth to glorify Jesus Christ through excellent choral singing. A freewill offering will be received. For more information, visit www.mennonitechildrenchoir.org or e-mail Michelle Sensenig at Christ United (michellesensenig@yahoo.com). Michelle says, "This should be a wonderful event and I hope that your church's music lovers and children will mark their calendars to attend!"

A Congregational Meeting

The Session has called for a Congregational Meeting on Sunday, June 10 at 10:30 a.m. for the purpose of acting on the request of Rev. Sara Holben to dissolve the pastoral relationship with PCC, effective July 15, 2018. This is a formal step required by the Book of Order of the PCUSA to help with an orderly transition when a pastor is leaving a congregation.

Buds for Babies

Have you ever noticed those single stems of roses that appear by the baptismal font? Those rosebuds, celebrating the arrival of a new life into our church family, are a service provided by the Flower Committee. For babies of active members, the flower is a gift from our church family and is delivered by a deacon or a member or the church staff. (Our church staff coordinates this aspect of flower ministry.)

The Flower Committee is also happy to assist in celebrating the arrival of members of our extended church family (i.e. grands, great-grands, nieces, nephews, etc.) For those births, the sponsoring family member is responsible for calling the church office to request the rose indicating the Sunday for presentation and supplying the Church Office Manager with all information for inclusion in the church bulletin. Donations to the Flower Fund are welcomed. The rose may be picked up following the worship service.

- Marian Wyble



June Birthdays

Meg Taylor	June 1
Arlene Williams	June 2
Joan Zellers	June 5
Thala Stalls	June 5
Walter Hubbard	June 5
Bob Hewes	June 6
Will Taylor	June 6
Jakob Jones	June 7
Betsy Eager	June 7
Anna Edwards	June 7
Jackie Urlock	June 10
Wendy Coslett	June 10
Judy Pharo	June 15
Linda Culp	June 16
Sherren Tarrach	June 17
Larry Adams	June 18
Grady McIntire	June 18
Elizabeth Wise	June 20
Lorraine Nickle	June 22
Leslie Ann Miller	June 23
Annabel Strootman	June 24
Sue Speakman	June 24
Anne Bricker	June 25
Peter Arnold	June 25
Jerry Ferguson	June 26
Carol Beaven	June 26
Hilda McCleary	June 26
Rebecca Strootman	June 27
Jay Douthit	June 29
Teresa Schaefer	June 30
Ryan Richardson	June 30

June 2018
PCC News Vol. 289

The PCC newsletter is published monthly (except in January and July) and distributed to member families and friends as a means of communication and outreach. Comments may be directed to the editor through the church office. Articles for publication should be submitted in writing, including the author's name, address and telephone number. All such articles are subject to editing before inclusion and become church property.

EDITOR / DESIGN
& PRODUCTION
JoAnn Fairchild Wood

**August deadline:
July 20, 2018**

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of Chestertown (PCC)
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Chestertown, MD 21620
Phone: 410-778-6057
E-mail: pcofc@verizon.net
www.presbyterianchestertown.org



*May the fragrance
Of a breathing meadow
Refresh your heart
And remind you you are
A Child of the earth.*

John O'Donohue

Christian Education News

Sunday School

In the summer, we offer a "one room Sunday School" for younger children up to age eight. We will be studying a variety of people from the Bible, just like the grown-ups. Summer is a perfect time to try to volunteer in the Sunday School environment. Sign up in the Narthex or contact Terri Gloyd, if interested.

Summer Nursery Helpers

Holly Kennedy, our Nursery worker, has taken a leave of absence for the summer. If you want to cuddle a little one and help a young family, see Terri Gloyd or sign up in the Narthex.

Vacation Bible School

We are partnering with Sacred Heart Church, Emmanuel Church, Christ United Methodist Church, and Graves Chapel UAME Church to provide a week (**June 25-28, 2018**) of faith and fun as we learn that Jesus rescues us when we are "shipwrecked" or lonely or troubled or afraid. Volunteers are needed to work with the children or in the kitchen. Sign-up sheets are in the Narthex.

Our mission project for Bible School is Christopher's Oak, which is an organization that provides water filters to storm-ravaged areas (such as Puerto Rico). Please consider supporting this effort with a donation.

Join us for a special week in the life of our faith community! Go to myvbs.org/PCctown for more information or talk to Melissa McIntire, Wendy Barnette or Terri Gloyd.

Summer Vacation Faith Ideas

God never goes on vacation. He is always with us and our families. Here are some ways to keep faith alive this summer:

- Reconnect with God's creation — visit a state park, have a bonfire, go swimming, stargaze and remember that God created this beautiful world for our enjoyment.
- Serve together — with your children, find a place to help out and give back. Mission work can build strong family bonds and

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Father's Day Outreach

Once again for Father's Day, our church is providing an "alternative giving" opportunity for you to honor the fathers, husbands, grandfathers, brothers, uncles, and friends who are important to you.

Mission Committee members will be selling Father's Day cards in the Narthex of the church on June 3rd & 10th. For a suggested donation of \$10, you will receive a unique Father's Day card acknowledging that a gift has been made to Camp Agape, a summer camp for children with incarcerated parents. (The camp will be held at Camp Wright from June 17-20, and PCC will have a number of volunteers at the camp.)

Thank you for your support over the years for the Father's Day cards. We hope that each gift will be enthusiastically received and Camp Agape will be a positive, fulfilling experience for the young children involved. - *Mission Committee of PCC*

Summer faith ideas cont.

deepen connections with faith and others.

- Attend Vacation Bible School!
- Attend a church that isn't your own. Sometimes going somewhere new will spark new faith ideas or help you appreciate your "home" church.
- Pray together. Make a family prayer time and prayer list. Gather and pray for those on your list. Think about places and people that may need help. Think about the wonderful things and offer prayers of thanks. - *Adapted by Terri Gloyd from <http://www.faithgateway.com>.*

Happy Anniversary in June



Jerry & Chris Smith	June 1
John & Gillian Ames	June 4
John & Courtney Sjostrom	June 5
Jim & Janet O'Harrah	June 6
Rick & Rene' Walbeck	June 6
Charlie & Marti Hawkins	June 11
Tom & Sue Speakman	June 11
Don & Sandy Winquist	June 12
Lee & Marge Faucett	June 13
Chuck & Betsy Miller	June 13
Tim & Pam Fisher	June 16
Tom & Betsy Eager	June 16
Jay & Carrie Douthit	June 18
David & Alice Dunham	June 18
John & Susan Hellwege	June 18
Jerry & Amy Ferguson	June 20
Cole & Jan Taylor	June 20
Karl & Carol Strootman	June 20
Mark & Christine Kamon	June 21
Adrian & Kristin Baker	June 22
Bill & Martha Williams	June 22
Don & Mary Alice Munson	June 23
Larry & Nancy Adams	June 23

Happy Father's Day

"Sometimes I think my papa is an accordion. When he looks at me and smiles and breathes, I hear the notes."

Markus Zusak, *The Book Thief*

You are cordially invited
to honor and celebrate the ministries of
The Reverend Sara A. Holben
and Robert A. Schminkey
at an all-church

Afternoon Reception

SATURDAY, JULY 14, 2018

2:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

as we send the couple forth
on their next great adventure
with our blessings and love
in Fellowship Hall

Presbyterian Church of Chestertown
905 Gateway Drive
Chestertown, Maryland

Oh, the places
we've been to,
the places they'll go!



Note: Pastor Sara's final sermon at PCC will be on Sunday, July 15.

A View From The Pew

Ode to Sara

This being the last “View From tThe Pew” before Sara’s retirement, I offer the following salute to our beloved pastor. - *Ralph Surette*

As you depart we see you as a shepherdess.

We guess that’s not surprising, since you orchestrate your flock
by helping us to keep close to God.

You surpass just being our Star of Bethlehem, bringing us nearer to Emmanuel,
by being wise as you try to be also kind.

You invite us to look around with wider eyes.

We also see your lovely heart, for surely beauty must reside in a heart that urges
other hearts to trust and believe.

Are you such a heart? We are quite sure you are indeed one.

Calling All Volunteers!

We need more **drivers** to provide transportation, for our congregation, to Doctor’s appointments or other activities around Chestertown or sometimes Rock Hall, Centreville, or Easton. Please contact Dallas Higginbotham at dallashigginbotham@gmail.com or 410-708-3534.

Volunteers are needed to help at the church with making **coffee** during the summer; **greeting** at our front door on Sundays; **nursery care** during worship; Vacation Bible School as “**shepherds**” to the children’s groups and/or VBS **kitchen** work.

Mission Committee Update

- In May a donation was made to the Community Dinner, which is held every Monday at First United Methodist Church.
- Kudos to Nancy Hewes who coordinated the Mother’s Day gift card effort. She reports: “Zikomo Kwimbiri – thank you very much – for widespread support to the Mother’s Day Malaria Program! Donations to date of \$2,405 will help fund the next phase of the Malaria Project at our partner church in Malawi. CCAP- Matiki hopes to distribute 500 nets in the coming year at a cost of \$3,110.01. Replacement of some of the worn out delivery bicycles, inflation and fuel costs result in a total budget of \$4,011.91. Mulungu akudalitseni – God is great!”
- Krista Pettit, Executive Director of Haven Ministries in Queen Anne’s County, presented her program which includes a seasonal shelter (for seven months), food pantry, disaster relief, street outreach, resource center, thrift shop and transportation. PCC youth Ellie Jetton (10th grade) and Maddie Blouch (8th grade) presented her with a check for \$121.00 from the Easter egg hunt. - *Linda Culp*



July Birthdays

Meredith Acton	July 1
Bill Bayne	July 2
Susan Hellwege	July 3
Bland Dickey	July 5
Nancy Hewes	July 6
Paul Taylor	July 7
Floyd Parks	July 8
Hayden Mishaw	July 8
Susan McCown	July 9
Earl Brooks	July 12
Alex Jones	July 12
John Sjostrom	July 14
Courtney Sjostrom	July 19
Don Winquist	July 20
Jackie Betty	July 21
Tom Fulton	July 21
Olivia Jones	July 22
Carol Cordes	July 23
Brian Glover	July 23
Jill Payne	July 23
Cathy Moyer	July 25
Bill Kraus	July 28
Pam Fisher	July 28
Travis Glover	July 31
Stacie Glover	July 31

Summer Youth Group!

Do you have a rising 6th grader in your family? We hope they will come join us for youth group this summer!

During the summer we'll be learning more about what is in the Bible. We'll have multiple opportunities to serve our neighbors near and far, and, as always we'll be having plenty of fun!

Contact Pastor Caitlan for more information.

Camp Agape Needs You

Camp Agape, a camp for children with incarcerated parents, will be held at Camp Wright on the Chesapeake Bay (last exit before the Bay bridge) from the evening of June 17 through mid-day on June 21.

This is the 10th year for Camp Agape, a ministry of the Diocese of Easton.

Volunteers are needed on Monday, June 18, and Tuesday, June 19, and Wednesday, June 20. About 30-40 children are expected between the ages of 7- 14. "One-on-one involvement" is the camp's key to success. You don't have to be "in charge," just assist the children with some activities such as lunch, library, booknook, serendipity (sharing groups), and arts & crafts. Volunteers usually leave about 4:30 p.m. each day.

We try to carpool if possible. Please give me a call (410-810-0986) if Camp Agape is a possibility for you and I will be happy to answer any questions that you might have.

One important feature for Camp Agape is background checks. If you have volunteered in the past, no additional information is needed. If not, go to "For Camp Wright Diocese of Easton, Safeguarding God's Children, Permission."

Hope to hear from you! It really is a great experience and the children are wonderful! - *Amy Ferguson*



Happy Anniversary in July

Jeff & Liz Shirk	July 3	Dal & Peggy Holmes	July 14
Vincent & Susan De Simone	July 3	Charlie & Peg Sommers	July 14
Paul & Betsy Taylor	July 12	Jim & Maryvonne Fouss	July 31

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

*It was not you who chose me,
says the Lord, but I who chose you and
appointed you to go and bear fruit,
fruit that will last.*

cf. John 15:16